

# True Love's Kiss

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Summary: True love's kiss had broken the curse, but what if you don't love the person you had a true love's kiss with? What if it was someone else?

## 1. Chapter 1

**\*\*Disclaimer:** I don't own How to train your dragon or anything else other than the ideaâ€¦ I thinkâ€¦ if there is a similar idea then I did not mean for it to happenâ€¦ seriouslyâ€¦ \*\*

**\*\*~True Love's Kiss Chapter 1~\*\***

**\_\*\*The beginning\*\*\_**

Once upon a time, there was a princessâ€¦

No scratch thatâ€¦

A prince actuallyâ€¦ was born into the vikingdom of Berk. It was the main vikingdom in the entire barbaric archipelago, since there were a lot of other vikingdoms too. The ruler of the vikingdom of Berk was King Stoic the Vast, who is married to the most beautiful Valhalarama. The whole kingdom rejoiced when the king and queen finally had a child they so wantedâ€¦ however it was ended once the queen died giving birth to her only son, which she only held for a fraction of a secondâ€¦

Four years passed and the prince grew up to become the most troublesome prince everâ€¦ he was always getting into trouble and scolded, but all the more he was already in a ripe age to choose his own dragonâ€¦ and his name was Hiccup Horrendous Haddock IIIâ€¦ well we all know what a great name it isâ€¦

"You'll be a great dragon rider someday Hiccup." Stoic beamed at his

four year old son who he had placed on his shouldersâ€|

"How do you know I'll be a great dragon rider?" he asked curiously towards his fatherâ€|

"Well, you're named after oneâ€| noâ€| two actuallyâ€| the Hiccup the first was the first to ride a dragonâ€| while the other oneâ€| Hiccup the second was the first to make a dragon academy." Stoic said thoughtfully, "Who knows, maybe someday you'll do something no one has ever done too." That got Hiccup thinking for a whileâ€|

"I know! I'll be the first to ever ride a night fury!" he exclaimed and Stoic laughedâ€|

"Aye lad, maybe you'll be the first to ride oneâ€|" and they entered the kingdom to look for a dragon his son would have for the rest of his life. However no matter how many his son have managed to tame, still he would not pick one until the day came where they'd have to stop and go to another vikingdom to \_\*\*present \*\*\_himâ€|

They sailed towards the island that was once known as the Outcast island, but the occupants weren't really barbaricâ€| they were just as strong as the others, but their features are quite misleadingâ€| if Hiccup had not been his son then he would probably belong here, but no matterâ€|

"Greetings Stoic!" Alvin greeted and then stared at Hiccup, "This is your son aye?" he said and picked up Hiccup rather roughly and looked at Stoic and Hiccup back and forth, "Wellâ€| he still has lots to grow doesn't he?" Hiccup pouted at the commentâ€| he knew he was indeed smaller than the rest of the kids his age, but he was really working on it, had his father not been too uptight about keeping him aroundâ€| which in turn made him smarter than the rest of the kids his ageâ€| well that's what you get when you hang around older companyâ€|

"Thank you for having us, Alvin," he said as he shook hands, "But where is your daughter?"

"Oh, that girl is tricky, just like her father," he said and winked, "Savage!" he yelled, "Go find me daughter!"

"Aye, aye sir!" and some of them left to find the princess. As soon as the issue of finding the daughter was gone, they were led into the great hall where there were many Vikings and villagers going out and about the hall. Hiccup was getting bored and looked aroundâ€| of course as a kid he was really very imaginative, but he could've sworn he saw something move behind the bushesâ€| well curiosity got the best of him and he followed itâ€| forgetting the fact that he was suppose to not wander around grounds he doesn't knowâ€|

Not too far away from the celebration though was the village of the Outcasts. They were also awake since their family members were still at the palace watching out for certain dangersâ€|although, in one hut, that didn't seem to be the caseâ€|

"Astrid, Ruffnut! What in Thor's name are you doin' up there!?" Astrid's mother shouted as she stormed up the stairs and into the room of her daughter and saw them with stick swords and all. She let out a sigh and took it from their small hands and place in somewhere

high up where they won't be able to reach itâ€¦

"Aw," Ruffnut whined, "Come on Mrs. Hofferson we'll promise to sleep afterwards!" they pleaded, she shook her headâ€¦

"Nu-uh, you girls better get to sleep. I promised your mother Ruffnut I'd look after you while you're here." Both girls pouted as they were tucked in bed. The moment door was closed both threw the covers off of themselves and stared out of the windowâ€¦

"Aw, look at themâ€¦ I bet the princess and prince is having the time of their lives having to stay up late for that." Ruffnut whispered to Astrid, who too was looking longingly at the palaceâ€¦

"Sigh," she sighed dreamily, "I wonder what it's like out there."

"I dunno," Ruffnut said, "But I bet Tuffnut is having the worst time back at home!" they both snickered, and Astrid took a peak below her windowâ€¦

"I got an idea!"

"What?!" she piped in excitedlyâ€¦

"Mom will be falling asleep not long from now, let's sneak out by then!"

"Alright!"

Though after waiting, it was only Astrid who stayed awake. She pouted for a bit and checked outside her roomâ€¦ the lights were turned off and her mother was sound asleep. She went back in and tugged on Ruffnut who only shoved her hand awayâ€¦

"Ruffnut come on!" she whispered, "Mom's asleep!"

"You goâ€¦ sneak awayâ€¦ I'll be here sleeping." She managed before falling right back asleep. Astrid shrugged her shoulders and did sneak out as quietly as possible. As soon as she got out she went to the direction of the palace and run in full speed with twinkles in her eyes. She was so gonna rub this in Ruffnut's face tomorrowâ€¦

She roamed and roamed until she didn't notice that she was nearing the palace. She saw something move in the corner of her eye and she whipped her head to see what it was that moved, but saw nothing. She shrugged her shoulders and continued walkingâ€¦ a bit lost she was in reality. She never travelled to the palace at night. She turned and took another way, but stopped after sometime when she still did not recognize the surroundingsâ€¦

She gulped and turned a different way again and started to wander offâ€¦ in the meantime, Hiccup was also wandering around the woods trying to see what it was he was following, but he couldn't see a thingâ€¦ perhaps if it was actually daylight already, until that's when he noticedâ€¦

He couldn't hear any laughs or music at all, he turned around and everything was dark. His eyes widened for a bit and eventually faintedâ€¦

Astrid was really going to get in trouble if her mom wakes up and finds only Ruffnut in bed. She bit her lip and continued walking. Forget about the palace, all she wants is to go home. She kept walking and eventually slipped on a wet rock and splashed on herself. She regained her stance and quickly climbed to the bank and gulped for some air and shiveredâ€¦ it was freezing cold! She hugged her knees to her chest and rocked her body back and forth, until she heard something move in the bushesâ€¦

She stopped and squinted her eyes in the dark, but it was useless she couldn't see anything, until she saw itâ€¦ two slits inside huge green pupils, shivering with cold, she managed to get a word out of her freezing lipsâ€¦

"D-d-dr-dra-dragon." She whispered, and it began to charge towards her and she was forced to flee away from the dragon. Back in Outcast Island were a lot of dragons untamed and unused to human companyâ€¦ so it was safe to assume, neither the people were accustomed to dragons. She ran for her life as the dragon let out a sound not really that loud, she was momentarily confusedâ€¦ that sound was a bit familiarâ€¦ she wonders where she heard it beforeâ€¦

She looked back, and could see nothing but a fireball coming right at her and she trippedâ€¦ missing the fireball a few inches from burning her head. She quickly looked around and grabbed a large branch and swung it to the dragon who she managed to hit. Just as it was about to charge again at her, she readied herself to swing the branch until eventually someone came between themâ€¦

"Stop!" said the little boy who held both palms open to the dragon and to her, "its okayâ€¦" he whispered to the dragon, "You scared her that's all." She dropped the branch and stared at him in confusion. What the hell was he doing? "I don't know how to speak dragoneese yet, but I'm still learning." He said to the dragon and continued to hold out his hand, "I'm a friendâ€¦ reallyâ€¦" he said. Eventually it was starting to get near him when it growled to someone behind him. He turned around to look at the other child with himâ€¦

"Ohâ€¦ hi!" he said giving her a goofy smile, "Why are you out here?" he asked, yet she eyed him in confusion as her eyes drifted from him and to the dragon, "Don't tell me you don't understand me too." He said in horror, and she glared at him and crossed her arms over her chestâ€¦

"Of course I do!" she hissed, "What I don't understand is that why you are talking to a mindless beast!" the so-called beast growled at her and she tripped back. He chuckles at her and came towards the dragon, "What are you laughing at?!"

"Nothing really," he admitted and he patted the dragon, "I just think you are rather amusing."

"What?" she asked in confusion, "Why?"

"You're out here wetâ€¦ and coldâ€¦ in nothing but your sleeping dress, and still you have the guts to defend yourself against a dragonâ€¦ you're pretty cool." He said and she blushedâ€¦ thankfully it was dark so he didn't notice it. She stood up and watched him in amazement as he circled the dragonâ€¦

"What are you doing?" she asked as she inched a bit closerâ€¦

"Well, I'm still trying to figure out what dragon this is though," he said, "But if my guess is correct based on the sound he made a while ago, this is the great night fury." He said and scratched the place behind the ears, "You need to go back home right?" he asked her and she nodded at him, he then got on the dragon and held out his hand to her, "Well come on, I'm going to be in trouble too if I don't get back soon."

"Uhâ€¦ no thanks?" she said unsurely and he rolled his eyes at her and pulled her up anywayâ€¦

"Trust meâ€¦ come on bud, you ready?" he asked and the dragon grunted, "I'll take that as a yes." And not a moment later they bolted to the air with Astrid screaming her lungs out and held onto dear life at the boy, "Whoa, slow down bud, we have a first timer here." He said a bit dizzy, "I knew you were fast but not \_this \_fast." He commented and turned to look behind him, "You alright back there?" he asked gentlyâ€¦

"Noâ€¦ please, get me downâ€¦" she whimpered and he just chuckledâ€¦

"Down?" he paused and looked around, "But it's just so beautiful up here." He whispered and looked around. Curious, Astrid bested herself by looking up and was indeed amazed by what she sawâ€¦ stars were everywhere and down below were the lightsâ€¦ she could see the whole island up here and the places she never sawâ€¦ she looked back in front of her and saw him looking around so peaceful at the sky. She bit her lip and looked downâ€¦

"No one in this place knows how to calm a dragonâ€¦" she said, "You're the prince aren't you?" she said and Hiccup slumped his shoulders in defeatâ€¦

"Yesâ€¦" he said and stared at her, "You mean you don't have like dragon academies here?" he asked her curiously and she shook her headâ€¦

"Nopeâ€¦ that's why Berk is the main Vikingdom in the entire barbaric archipelagoâ€¦ that's their distinct feature." She said, "So does everyone in Berk really have dragons?"

"Yepâ€¦ don't you too have dragons?" she shook her headâ€¦

"Only knights have oneâ€¦ the rest have poniesâ€¦ or parrotsâ€¦" she replied. Hiccup nodded and looked downâ€¦

"Didn't you say you needed to go home?" he asked and she nodded, "Wellâ€¦ hold on." And they dived down, this time Astrid kept her eyes open, embracing the prince tightlyâ€¦ she never thought she'd meet himâ€¦ he wasn't really that bad at allâ€¦ she absentmindedly smiled as she stared at the prince's backâ€¦ she hopes someday she'll meet him once againâ€¦ they arrived at her hut, and she passed through the window of her roomâ€¦ she looked out and saw him fly away and she knew exactly what she wanted to do later onâ€¦

She was going to be a knight one dayâ€¦ and ride a dragonâ€¦ and go

see the Prince one dayâ€|

As soon as Hiccup dropped off the girl, he went back directly to the palace. He stared at his black dragon and smiled at him, "I wonder what I should call you." He said and then shook his head, "Nahâ€| I'll think about it tomorrow." They sped up and went to the palace again where everyone was shocked, amazed, terrified and everything else at the sight of him riding a dragon no one ever seen before. Everyone was silent for a while and even Stoic was speechless until he let out a chuckle and laughed, followed by some of the people he had with himâ€|

"Good job boy!" he beamed at his son and scooped him up, "May I present my son, Hiccup Horrendous Haddock III, who really lives up to his nameâ€| as the first to ever have a night fury as their dragon!" and everyone in the palace rejoiced for another more hour to congratulate and flock over the hatchling night furyâ€|

As soon as they returned back to Berk, the whole island was silent for a little while as their king delivered to them dreadful news about the Vikingdom Berkâ€| on the fourteenth birthday of the prince, the Vikingdom Berk will fall into a deep sleep. A forest of thorns will rise around the palace and keep the dangers within and the people out of Berk. However, King Stoic told each of the kings with daughters or nieces that if one of them wakes the prince up through a kiss, then the curse is brokenâ€|

No one knows when the curse took placeâ€| but one thing was for sureâ€| whoever wakes up the prince will be immediately betrothed to him, and the vikingdoms will merge into one great empire. Starting from that day, Astrid trained and trained hard to be able to become a knight and help the curse be brokenâ€| and see Prince Hiccup awake and smilingâ€| gliding through the skies with his mighty dragonâ€| the night furyâ€|

Years passed by and Prince Hiccup was told of the curse, and he was greatly saddened. It seemed like his fate was sealed. He turned to his dragon and went out for a fly around the island. This went on day after day ever since he knew about his fate. Every single day that passed by, it took longer for the prince to return, and more and more he forgot about the people he had met from around the barbaric islands. He would go out and sketch every single moment until the books were filled with drawings of things he'll know he'd go back to once he would wake upâ€| if he'd wake upâ€|

Berk was preparing for years they know they'd miss out, for only time could tell when they would really be up and about. They'd be falling asleep as the prince will be tooâ€|

These were sad times for berkâ€|

"Hiccup, are you alright?" Stoic asked his thirteen-year-old who was now sulking inside his room, "Do you want anything?" he asked. Hiccup stared at the sun which was beginning to set and then back at his fatherâ€|

"Did mom knew this day was coming?" he asked and looked back out, "Is that why-"

"No Hiccup," his father said as he walked in, "She would have stuck

with us throughout the way had she been given the choice." He replied and let out a dejected sigh, "I'd do anything to stop it Hiccup if given the chanceâ€¦ but preventing a day to come is something I couldn't do." And with that he left his son to ponder on his thoughts. As soon as he left, Hiccup went to sit in from of his spinning wheel and spun his wheelâ€¦ a few moments later there was a familiar flapping of wings heard outside the window and Hiccup beamed at his dragonâ€¦

"Toothless, bud, AW!" he said as he pricked his finger, he sucked on it for a while and then stared outside and snatched his sketchbook, "Just in time for sunset bud, let's go."

They flew around and around the island and Hiccup almost forgot what day it wasâ€¦

Tomorrow was his fourteenth birthday, and he wished he could stop time at this moment. He sketched and sketched the night view he was seeing and savoured each and every moment of his last dayâ€¦ you'd think he was going to die, but who knows when he'll wake up? Might as well enjoy every momentâ€¦ but time was nearing and he had to get backâ€¦

"Alright bud," he said patting the dragon, "Time to head back." As soon as they arrived Hiccup landed outside the palace doors and cuddled with Toothless who let out a whine, "I'm gonna miss you bud." Hiccup whispered to his dragon, "I hope we see each other someday."

Of course, even if dragons were part of the kingdom, they weren't part of the curse. They were the dangers locked inside the forest of thorns that would surround the kingdom, therefore, whoever goes in is sure doomed to die if they don't know what they're doingâ€¦ after allâ€¦ dragons could only live so muchâ€¦

For all Hiccup knew, Toothless won't be around when he wakes upâ€¦

He went up the stairs and felt every wall. The guards already locked up the doors and stood guard. Maybe if he won't sleep then the kingdom won't fall asleepâ€¦ but that would be impossible, he won't be able to stay awake for one whole day. Until he got an ideaâ€¦

"What if I sleep now and wake up an hour before midnight and then stay awakeâ€¦ surely I can be awake for one whole day!" he said and then dashed to his room to get that much needed sleep of his, "This please work." He muttered to himself before bumping into one of the palace maids, "Whoops sorry!" he apologized as she fell to the ground, and he helped her get upâ€¦

"Oh, nonsense my prince," said the maid, "Why such hurry?" she asked and he answered her truthfully and told her about the plan, "In what way may I help?" she asked him and he got a brilliant ideaâ€¦ in this case means it would have been brilliant had he spoken it to the correct personâ€¦

"Wake me up an hour before midnight." He said and dashed to his room. He missed to see her smirk to herself and slowly shed off her disguiseâ€¦

"I'm afraid I can't let you do that dear princeâ€|" she said as she went out the balcony and stared at the starry skies, "Tomorrow's the day I'll get what I wantâ€| and you won't foil my plans no matter how brilliant it isâ€|" she raised her hands and began to chant her spellâ€|

"\_\*\*Thy prick on thy finger on the spinning wheel's needle, shall be the reason your great plan shall crumbleâ€| thy wound shall place you on a sleepy trance, therefore you will lose your chanceâ€| what's supposedly mine she claimed as hersâ€| now all of you shall suffer under my curseâ€|"\*\*\_

And with that rain was poured down onto the kingdom as she melted away with each raindrop that felt onto her and slowly disappeared. Prince Hiccup never woke up as he had planned for the needle was enchanted by the witch herself as well. It was there as insurance, to make sure her plans worked out perfectly wellâ€|

Days passed and new weeds sprouted up slowly and were rapidly growing as each rain passedâ€| even through the snow it grew and grew until it almost reached the highest tower in the castleâ€| and eventually grew taller than the palace itselfâ€|

People tried to get in the island, but even with the palace dragons, they couldn't get it. There were too many thorns, and the only way in was to walk through the thorns underneath, but as many people went inâ€| no one ever got out. All they could hear are the screams and roars of what seemed to be a deadly monster guarding the palace from intrudersâ€|

Rumours had it that the kingdoms had given up on their ventures for the princeâ€| and some said that there was more to the curse than ever let on by the sleeping king inside his sleeping kingdom, however, needless to say there were two kingdoms who never went to the palace directlyâ€|

The Bog Vikingdom and the Outcast Vikingdomâ€|

The Bog is a vikingdom filled with only females. Males have no place in their island and are enslaved. Their queen, Big-boobied Bertha has her daughter training along with one of the rarest dragons, a mood dragon, before she goes and greets the prince ever since King Stoic visited them when the children were still three.

Camicazi was a fierce and headstrong girl; she never let anyone look down on her, and would never back out in a fight. As soon as she heard about the impenetrable vikingdom, she trained hard all day long and encountered every challenge there was to faceâ€| but the ultimate goal was to reach the top most tower and wake the princeâ€| but no one had gotten past the demon guarding the palace that was rumoured to be the dragon Prince Hiccup ownedâ€|

"As soon as I get to that dragon I'm gonna skin it alive and cut off its head!" she exclaimedâ€|

"Noâ€| don't kill itâ€| if you wake the prince up and he'll realize that you killed his dragon then it could start a war between Berk and Bog."



"But I thought it meant an alliance?" she asked confusedâ€¦

"Noâ€¦ the alliance is only formed if you will agree to marry the prince."

"That little toothpick?" she said in disgust, "Never in a million years, I won't go then!" she said

"If you do this, you're letting Heather win!"

"Who?"

"Alvin's daughterâ€¦ Princess Heatherâ€¦ I hear she's determined to get to the Prince before you."

"Well, would you look at that?" she said, "And here I thought she was such a sissy."

"Well, if it'll bring you comfort, she has created some of her own knights of rounds to accompany her to her quest."

"Yep, she's a coward alright."

"Coward yesâ€¦ but wise too." Bertha then went to whisper to her daughter's ear. Camicazi's eyes widened and stared at her motherâ€¦

"You want me to what?!"

"She hasn't met youâ€¦ only Prince Hiccup did."

"Aye that's true but become her knight!?" her mom gave her a glare that she groaned in defeat, "Fineâ€¦ but how do I get before she does?"

"That'll be entirely up to youâ€¦ this time; all they know is that you are here, training."

"But I'm fourteenâ€¦ will you think she'll believe me when I say I can fight?"

"Well, she'd be very unlucky if she weren't to choose you." Bertha then smirked at her daughter, "This timeâ€¦ we'll be ahead of them."

\*\*Okay so there was an instant time skip thereâ€¦ so to summarize what just happened, Hiccup was born and by four years old he is able to pick his own dragon, but he chose Toothless who he had met with Astridâ€¦ so years later he forgot about the people he had met because he was too busy savouring his years at home by flying with Toothlessâ€¦ on his fourteenth birthday the entire kingdom was put to sleepâ€¦ \*\*

\*\*And now, the entire barbaric archipelago is having a race as to who will be able to reach Hiccup first and merge with Berkâ€¦ \*\*

\*\*Question isâ€¦ how did Stoic know about the curse? When did it happen? Who cast the curse? Why was there a curse in the first place? Who'll get to be in the knights of rounds of Princess Heather? And

who will get there first, is it Camicazi or Heather? And what happened to Astrid?\*

\*Hold on to the next chapters to see each of the mysteries uncovered and solved!\*

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\*11042013\*

\*oh, please check out my story in with this link  
s/3186640/1/Immortal-Love  
><strong>

\*feel free to visit if you're up for it :3\*

## 2. Chapter 2

\*Disclaimer: I do not own How to train your dragon or any of its franchise, characters, and whatsoever! but I do hope the idea was mine. Thank you so much also for your reviews, follows and favorites! Hope you enjoy this chapter :3\*

\*~True Love's Kiss Chapter 2~\*

\_\*\*Knights of Rounds\*\*\_

For the past few years, a lot has changed over the barbaric archipelago. They have learned to adapt the ways of the people from Berk and had dragons everywhere. Of course, these Vikings never took much liking to the change of culture, so only few had converted to the new ways, while most were hesitant to the new approach!

Four years ago the prince was put into a deep, deep slumber and now only two Vikingdoms remain to fight for the right to the promised empire of King Stoic the vast of Berk. The Meatheads and the Berserker Vikingdom was immediately out of the list since they both have male heirs, but the Uglithugs has renounced their participation after they failed to infiltrate the forest of thorns!

No one has heard about the princess from the Bog-burglar islands. Rumour has it she ran away after knowing she'll be betrothed to the prince! but there were also some rumours she was training back in the island in secret. While Princess Heather! well, she was by far the most popular of all the princesses out to seek the prince's hand in marriage!

She had created her own knights of rounds that were to endure every possible risk they were more likely to encounter once they go after the prince and wake him up. The tasks of ever qualifying in the rounds were a difficult test. For one to succeed, one must go through a test of strength first...

After passing the first round, they are to undergo a test of their mental capabilities. Princess Heather had sworn to not be leading a group of mindless warriors during her quest! she'll need them for every single time she would have doubts. However, if you do not pass the test, but you have stood out in the first round they just might make an exception!

The last test was a test of teamwork. This was necessary for it was clear these knights of rounds must be able to work \_with \_each other and not \_against \_each other. After all, they are going to go after the most dangerous place in the barbaric archipelagoâ€¦ Berk. It was rumoured to be guarded by terrible beastsâ€¦ but no one ever lived to tell the tale on what kind of beastsâ€¦

Over the years there were only a few people who had passed the test, and they trained hard day after day ever since they were qualified to be inside the Princess's secret circle. Their task was to ensure no harm would ever come to the princess on her quest to waking the prince up, and no one was going to risk the other getting there first before they canâ€¦

There were only seven members who passed the initiation and they were all formidable and just around the same age as the Princess. Three girls, and four boys, that was the ratio of their teamâ€¦

Thuggory and Dagur were from a different island, but it didn't matter for Princess Heather since they proved to be equally talented and very familiar with politics. Thuggory was more of a prankster but he knew where his limits lie. Dagur was a very harsh and brutal fighter, and he was short-tempered. However he was very eager to join in the quest and followed every rule that was placedâ€¦ he was an obedient knightâ€¦

Fishlegs Ingerman was a gentle soul, but due to the sense of adventure and natural curiosity he possessed, he was determined to be aboard the quest, plus he had another natural obsession with dragons and was equipped with knowledge found in most books. However, he's really quite scary once you tick him offâ€¦

Tuffnut and Ruffnut Thorston were twins and usually get into fights with each other. They almost didn't pass the third test, but however they proved to be excellent fighters once they put their petty fights aside. After all it was said two heads are better than oneâ€¦

Astrid Hofferson was the perfect candidate from the start and proved to be very loyal. Although her intentions seemed very suspicious, Heather liked her and allowed her in due to her natural talent and being level headed. She also seemed to be able to keep the twins in check, and was born a natural leader, with impressive reflexesâ€¦

Camicaziâ€¦ well, she was a mysterious girl that they really didn't want to be in the rounds, but she too got along well with Astrid, and so Heather allowed her in. Her skills were impressive too, and she knew a lot about strategies and was indeed very sneaky, they were going to need that if they are to get through the demons inside the forest of thorns, and so the knights of rounds were completedâ€¦

Currently in the throne room, both princess and king and his advisors were having a meetingâ€¦

"I don't think that move is best sire," said Mildew, "These dragons could easily lose control, you saw how the mood dragon reacted when I merely passed by it."

"These dragons are the best option we have," countered Princess Heather, "If we do it by sea then we risk having the princess of the Bogs go there before me!"

"Calm down daughter," interferred Alvin, "We shall think about this thoroughly, how are your knights?"

"At their best condition and ready whenever you allow us." She replied. Alvin stopped to think for a while and then looked to his advisors. Truly he can't risk having the Bogs get to Berk first, and dragons were the best way to travelâ€¦ but if these dragons were to lose control then his daughter will die and he'll gain nothing from it. As soon as he was about to give out his final judgement, Savage came bursting through the doors panting heavilyâ€¦

"What is it Savage?" Alvin hissed

"Sireâ€¦" Savage said, while catching his breath, "A dragonâ€¦ a rogue dragon has gone amok and destroyed our ships made ready for the princess's quest." He finished. Alvin's eyebrow quirked a bit and then turned back to his daughterâ€¦

"You said they are ready then?" he asked her, she nodded, "Tomorrow thenâ€¦ at the break of dawn, go out and track this dragon and kill it. Your knights achieve thisâ€¦ I'll allow you to travel by dragons."

"And if we don't?"

"Then you'll have to find new warriors."

\_\_\*\*.\*\*\_\_

\_\_\*\*.\*\*\_\_

\_\_\*\*.\*\*\_\_

"So if we don't kill that dragon thenâ€¦" Fishlegs asked faltering, and Heather nodded, "Butâ€¦ I didn't sign up for thisâ€¦ I just wanted to see adventure and help wake the prince up." He whispered and everyone stared at him, feeling as disheartened as he was. Heather stood in the middle of it all and looked around her knightsâ€¦

"Pleaseâ€¦ just this onceâ€¦ I'm begging you to \_kill \_a dragon. And besides, this dragon has caused pain to our villagers and you are knights to this kingdom." She said, "You still swore to protect this and its villagers." Everyone else was contemplating whether to go along or not, but they all have dragons on their own and this was not helping the fact they'd be killing something they know have goodness in them. Camicazi looked around and suddenly stood up from her spotâ€¦

"If we don't do this, then all of our efforts are truly wasted." She said and everyone listened up to her, "This is \_\*\*the \*\*\_chance of a lifetime," she stared at each and every one of them, "Let us grab this opportunity and not let go, we took an oath and we have to do it. Not for ourselves but for the greater good." She finished and looked at Heather, "Now who's with me?" Dagur's hand was the first to

shoot his hand straight up in the air, while the twins stared at each other for a bit and then raised their hands afterwards. Thuggory let out a sigh and slowly raised his hand as well, and the rest of the eyes were focused on both Fishlegs and Astridâ€¦ until Astrid raised her hand up hesitantlyâ€¦

Fishlegs bit his lip and then stared at the starry night and let out a defeated sigh, "Alright, I'll go along tooâ€¦ but I'm not going to kill the dragon." He said, "But what about our dragons?" at this Astrid finally spoke upâ€¦

"We don't bring it with us," she said, "We'll leave them here at the castle and travel by foot. We'll track it down by ourselvesâ€¦ after all, it's not our dragons who'll find the princeâ€¦ it has to be usâ€¦ and this test was \*\*for\*\* us. It's time to test our abilities without our dragons." Heather clasped her hands together and thanked them for understanding the circumstances and left their quarters afterwards as she was being summoned for dinnerâ€¦

"Well, let's rest up for tonight my fellow warriors," said Dagur and smirked as he looked outside, "Tomorrow's going to be one Hel of a day."

"Oh I can't wait to kill a dragon," whispered Tuffnut, "I wonder what kind of a dragon it is though."

"I bet it's a monstrous nightmare," Ruffnut whispered, "What's your bet?"

"I bet it'll be a whispering death."

"Ha, the only whispering death around here is the king's."

"Well you never know."

"Actually I do."

"No you don't."

"Yes I do."

"Nu-uh."

"Ye-uh."

"Nu-uh!"

"Ye-uh!"

"Will you please stop that!?" Astrid yelled at them both, "Get back to bed!" and they both immediately did. She made sure both were back in their beds before getting her cloak and axe from her bedpost, when she bumped into Thuggory, "Sorry." She said looking downâ€¦

"Where are you off to?" he asked, blocking her way outâ€¦

"To the stables." She replied

"Why?" he asked

"Because I want to!" she hissed and tried to move pass him, yet he wouldn't budge, "Step aside Thuggory."

"You have to rest."

"I'll be quick."

"I'll come with you." He said and Astrid held his gaze for a long moment, until she finally gave inâ€¦

"Fine." And they both went to the stables. As soon as they reached it, they greeted their respective dragons and fed everyone else's too. Thuggory saw Astrid place something along with their food, but didn't comment on it. As soon as they were out of the stables, that's when Thuggory grabbed her armâ€¦

"What'd you do?"

"I fed them."

"What did you place?" he asked sternly. She sighed again and pulled out a powder from her pockets and showed it to him. He took it from her and examined it, "What's this?" he asked her...

"It's something I got from trader Johann," she mumbled, "It's strong enough to put a dragon to sleep, and knock a person out for a whole week." Thuggory pocketed the powder, "Hey!" Astrid hissed and tried to take it back from him yet he placed a dagger to her throatâ€¦

"Why do you need it?" he asked againâ€¦

"I didn't trade for it!" she hissed again, "He gave it to me because no one else wanted it!"

"Really, he just gave it to you?" he asked her in disbelief, "He's called a \_trader \_not \_giver\_, Astrid. What did you give him?"

"Nothing!"

"Tell me the truth."

"I did tell you the truth." Thuggory placed the dagger back in its place but still refused to give it back to her, "Aren't you going to give it to me?"

"No," he said, "But maybe I'll trade you something for it." He said smirking at herâ€¦

"What do you want?"

"Go out with meâ€¦ when this is all over." He said and tried to reach out for her, yet she pulled her hands back, "Just give me a chanceâ€¦ one chance, that's all I ask." He whispered. She looked at him and walked past himâ€¦

"I changed my mind, I don't want it back." And she left him standing outsideâ€¦

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Dawn came and it was time to wake up. Camicazi woke up first and then woke the others up. They wouldn't want to be late, especially now that they will have to do things manually and without the help of their dragons. They got ready and packed up their weapons and supplies in their satchels and made haste to leave. They went down the staircases and immediately took off to the woods in horsebackâ€|

As the hooves were running on the soft ground and dust were scattered everywhere, the knights were keen on their task and stopped at the middle of the forest and tied up their horsesâ€|

"Why are we even stopping?" Dagur complained as they got down from their horses, "Did you find anything about the dragon?"

"No," Thuggory replied, "But judging from the dry land, and how easily dust can cover the tracks, we might lose it if we continue on with the horses. We'll travel by foot from here on out."

Everyone was split into teams, Thuggory and Fishlegs were together, while Dagur was placed with the twins, and Camicazi and Astrid were paired up. They split up to cover more ground and were going to meet each other at the end of the day at the very same place they left the horses. And in case anyone of them was in trouble, they make their dragon call to let the others know. Interference from their dragons was not a problem since Astrid made sure of itâ€|

"Sigh, this day is pretty boring." Dagur sighed as he looked around the ground for any tracks, "Not a single track has crossed our paths yet." He mutteredâ€|

"Told ya it was a whispering death!" Tuffnut said as he slapped his sister's backâ€|

"He just said no tracks idiot!" she rebutted and sent him a punch in the face which later on grew to be another sibling feud. Dagur rolled his eyes at them and continued to walk and look for some tracks, at least get the work done fasterâ€|

Meanwhile there was no such luck with Thuggory and Fishlegs eitherâ€|

"What kind of dragon do you think it will be?" Fishlegs asked as he looked around for anything unusual, "I've never heard of any rogue dragon before though."

"Yeah well," Thuggory said dusting off his hands and faced Fishlegs, "There's always a first time for everything."

"What if we just tame the dragon?"

"And if we can't?" Thuggory asked looking at Fishlegs, "Look Fish, I know you don't want to kill dragons, believe me I don't either but if worse comes to worst, are you able to do the right thing and put down

a dragon you know no one can ever handle?" Fishlegs didn't answer, and Thuggory resumed tracking down the dragon they were looking forâ€|

Astrid and Camicazi's search weren't so fruitful either, but no talking was much involved other than exchange information or findings. Everything went as smoothly as possible, and both girls were determined to go and finish the task. The sooner they kill the dragonâ€| the sooner they can start on their questâ€|

Astrid looked around the trees while Camicazi went about the ground. Astrid paused and turned to look at Camicazi, very determined to track this dragon down. She bit her lip and approached her quietly, Camicazi sensed her approached and paused and sat up to look at Astridâ€|

"Hm?"

"Why'd you join the knights Cami?" Astrid asked, "You always complained about how you are always getting ordered around by everyone who thought they were more superior, so why did you join when you knew that we knights are the ones usually getting ordered around?" Camicazi let out a sigh and stood upâ€|

"Well, that's for me to know and for you to find out." She replied and started to look somewhere elseâ€|

"We swore to one another we'd be honest about things!"

"We'll I sure ain't lying about anything!" Camicazi rebutted, "Now if you're just going to stand there and do nothing might as well go back to the princess. You only got in because she likes you!"

"I got in because of my skills!"

"Well I hate to break it to you but this whole knights of rounds could do better without you because they've got me!" she then approached Astrid and stared at her eye to eye, "You really think you're that excellent? Well let me tell you I'm just as good as youâ€| but what set me apart from you is that I know how to deal with things better than you do and I can do something you can't!"

"And what is it you can do that I can't?" Astrid asked and stared at her with equal intensity. Just as Camicazi was about to reply, the ground beneath them began to shake and both warriors stared at the ground and around, until both of them were tripped and fell into the ground. Dust clouded them and they both coughed out and waved away the dirt from their sight. They looked around and stared up at the big hole right above themâ€|

"Now what?" Camicazi complained, "Got any light?" she asked and Astrid stared at her for a moment before ripping a cloth from her cape and picking up a stick and wrapped it around. Next she picked up a couple of rocks and struck them against each other until it created sparks and lit up their underground tunnel, "What the Hel made this tunnel?" Camicazi muttered as she continued on. Astrid quirked her head to the side and stared behind herâ€|

This was a pretty long tunnel and that shaking of the earth was just too sudden to become a natural calamity, beside it seemed like it



just passed by underneath themâ€|

Astrid's eyes widened and grabbed Camicazi's arm, "Come on!" she whisperedâ€|

"Wha- Hey!" Camicazi shouted, "What the Hel's wrong with you?!"

"Be quiet!" she whispered again, "Come on get up!"

"What? Why?" and just like that they heard a distinct roar and both girls frozeâ€|

"Because this dragon's extremely territorialâ€| and we just literally crashed in its home."

A while ago during Dagur and the twins' search, things seemed pretty ominous. It has a dark feeling and they were going deeper and deeper into the forest, until they saw a hole dug up. The three of them inched towards the hole a little bit and tried to take a peak, unknown of the danger that lurked in the shadows of the underground tunnelâ€|

"Your head is getting bigger Ruff, I can't see a thing." Tuffnut commentedâ€|

"You think my head is bigger? Why don't you go and look in the mirror?" Ruffnut rebuttedâ€|

"Well, that would mean my brain is bigger than yours therefore I'm smarter than you."

"Oh yeah? You just said a while ago my head is bigger."

"Yes indeed I did."

"So you also admit I'm smarter than you."

"Exactlyâ€| wait what? No I'm the smarter one!"

"No I am!"

"No me!"

"Me! You said it yourself!"

"No-"

"Shut it!" Dagur yelled and turned to look at both of the twins, "Could you please stop with all the nonsense and focus on what we have to do?! Nightfall is about to come and we still can't find that blasted dragon!", he failed to notice that something was changing in the twins' expression and that there was something hovering above them, "-So instead of you guys fight over a single little thing would you pleaseâ€| are you two even listening?!"

"Da-da-da-" both twins tried to say as they stared behind him. He inched a bit closer to them, until he turned around and dropped his jaw tooâ€|

"I think we found the dragonâ€|" Ruffnut managed to sayâ€|

"Or the dragon found us." Tuffnut added. The dragon's eyes were pupil-less and thorns were surrounding its body. They saw the king's dragon, and it looked scarier up close than when they were staring at it from the gates, "I win the bet then." Tuffnut whispered to his sister who just looked at him in disbelief as he gave her a smug look. The dragon then began to open up its mouth and then snapped at the three of them, luckily they dodged just in timeâ€¦

It circled around them and went underground and sprouted up with a speed of flash that they barely managed to avoid getting snapped at. Apparently Tuffnut fell into the dark pit as he quickly changed his directionsâ€¦

"Tuffnut!" Ruffnut called out as she saw her brother disappear, "Dagur we have to get him." She shouted across. Dagur let out a grunt and went after her. As soon as they reached the hole they stared down below yet still they couldn't see anythingâ€¦

"Tuffnut, are you alive?" Dagur askedâ€¦ after a few moments they heard some movement and then a gruntâ€¦

"Oh I'm hurtâ€¦ I'm very much hurt!" Tuffnut shouted from down below. Dagur got out a rope and began to do some knots and handed the other end to Ruffnut. Ruffnut took it eagerly and waited for orders from Dagurâ€¦

"You're the fastest runner here Ruff," Dagur said, "If you feel something's happened blow the horn and get help." Those were his last words before going down the underground and Ruffnut just kept her ear near the hole to listen to what was happening. Meanwhile as Dagur got down the dark hole, he tried to feel around for Tuffnut, "Tuff where are you?" he whisperedâ€¦

"Uhâ€¦ here?" a voice replied from somewhere beside himâ€¦

"Where is \_here\_!?"

"How should I know? I don't see anything!"

"Gah!" Dagur said and crawled down, "You owe me big time for this!"

"Where's ruff?"

"Up."

"You left her?!"

"I don't have much of a choice now do I?"

"Uhâ€¦ she's not to be trustedâ€¦ uhâ€¦ yeah. I don't care what happens to herâ€¦ I just care aboutâ€¦ uhâ€¦ uhâ€¦ let me thinkâ€¦ don't rush me." Tuffnut said and Dagur rolled his eyes even though it was dark. He approached Tuffnut quite roughly and checked up on himâ€¦

"What hurts?"

"Uh, not much... just a bit of a back ache that's all."

"Can you stand up?"

"Probably."

"Alright, stand." As soon as Tuffnut was able to successfully stand up, Dagur began to hear a growling from behind him, "Greatâ€¦ now can you run, jump or still swing your spear?" he asked as he stood frozen. Tuffnut seemed to be taking his sweet time as he took the liberty to test his musclesâ€¦

"Yeahâ€¦ most probably."

"Goodâ€¦ run!" he shouted and the whispering death began to snap at them once more and both males took off running throughout the tunnel with the occasional tripping and bumping into the walls, until eventually they paused and decided it was enough running already, "Ready Tuff?"

"Hel yeah!" he cheered and both managed to charge towards the dragon. Of course by that time their eyes already adjusted to the poorly lit place, and they blocked its thorns and evaded its mouth as fast as they could in the cramped place. They jumped and grabbed onto the head as it dove towards them and they held on for dear life. Naturally of course, the whispering death tried to get them off and bumped its head throughout all the walls, and continued to go onâ€¦

This was the shaking of the earth Astrid and Camicazi had felt before they fell into the tunnelâ€¦

Of course Tuffnut fell somewhere on the way and managed to stick his spear somewhere into the dragon's body that made it roar and began to change its course as it was chasing Tuffnut with Dagur on its head extremely dizzy from getting bumped in the head way too many times. Tuffnut managed to meet Astrid and Camicazi trying to get out of the hole too and he managed to yellâ€¦

"Hurry its coming!"

"Tuffnut?!" Astrid called out, "Where are Ruffnut and Dagur?!"

"Ruffnut's off somewhere, but Dagur is right behind me riding the whispering death." He panted out and look behind him, "But he's getting here quick."

"Are you crazy we have to help him." Camicazi said and Tuffnut shook his headâ€¦

"Nope, he's fineâ€¦ we're the ones supposed to be worried aboutâ€¦ come on, I'll give you a boost." He said and Camicazi obliged and managed to get out first, but as soon as it was Astrid's turn, the whispering death managed to catch up and threw Astrid off somewhere as well as Tuffnutâ€¦

Meanwhile in the castle, Heather looked outside her window and was just getting ready to get out of the castle grounds to go after her knights, but her father wanted her to just go out there once her knights were to return. As soon as she finished with her lessons for the day she dismissed all the maids with her and began to pack up her

bow and arrows and cloak.

She managed to get out of the castle, and now she had to get to the forest as fast as she could. She only hoped she did not miss out from all the funâ€¦|

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><p><strong>And that's the end of the second chapter everyone, so this chapter is four years after the curse had taken place and during that time our characters grew, and so did our prince while in his sleep. So as you all probably know now what Bertha was planning in the previous chapter, but question now isâ€¦| what does Camicazi think after all these years? Is she still acting upon her mother's orders or is she having new thoughts about it?<strong>

\*\*And what in the world is happening with Fishlegs and Thuggory's side? And where the hell is Ruffnut? Will they be able to kill the dragon or let it go? And what can Heather do to help them? All that in the next chapter\*\*

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\*\*check out my story in fictionpress if your not too busy :3 it's entitled "Immortal Love" under the same penname i have on this site :3\*\*

### 3. Chapter 3

\*\*Disclaimer: I don't own How to train your dragon or any of its characters, franchise or whatsoeverâ€¦| \*\*

\*\*~True Love's Kiss Chapter 3~\*\*

\_\*\*Dragon's blood\*\*\_

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><p>Princess Heather was running as fast as her legs could carry her and was stopping at nothing. She needed to get to her knights and prove to them as well she can take care of herself. This quest would be a chance to prove to her father that she was ready to take on whatever dangers there was, and she knew too that unless she could pass this simple test, then she would be allowed to go on and try her limits through trying to wake the prince upâ€¦|<p>

All her life she was kept inside, trying to watch her knights go through every single test she made, yet she knew she couldn't even pass one. Every single day she watched them train, until finally she managed to convince Astrid to train her. Reluctantly she did, but the princess proved to be a fast learnerâ€¦|

She tripped upon an overgrown root and stumbled down the hill, until eventually she bumped into Ruffnut, who too was running as fast as she could to find the others. As soon as she heard Dagur shouted 'run', she took off running as well to find Thuggory. He was always

the best strategist, not to mention Fishlegs was with him who knew the most about these dragons and what their weaknesses wereâ€¦

"Gah!" Ruffnut exclaimed as she was thrown off course, "Watch where you're going!" she hissed and finally looked up her eyes widened, "Your highness I- I didn't know-"

"It's fine Ruff," Heather said grunting in pain as well, "Where are the others?"

"Wellâ€¦ that's why I'm running as fast as I could." She said getting up, "We split into teams a while ago, and we found the dragon butâ€¦"

"But what?"

"Who really knows what's happening right?"

"You left them!?"

"Well, that's why I'm running! To get the others as fast as I could so I could return and help them!"

"Well then let's go!" as soon as Heather mentioned that they heard a distinct blow of a horn not too far from where they are, "What was that?"

"Astrid." Ruffnut muttered, "No wonder I forgot something!" she hissed, "I forgot to blow the horn!"

"What?"

"No time for that princess, we gotta get there fast; Thuggory and Fishlegs will be as well."

"And Dagur and Tuffnut what about them?"

"Right now, I can only hope they are together." And they both took off running into the woods to where they last heard the hornâ€¦

Meanwhile as soon as Thuggory heard of the horn, he immediately took off running and would have probably left Fishlegs behind had he not heard it too. Naturally, Fishlegs wasn't much of a runner therefore he easily lost track of Thuggory who continued to run to aid his teammatesâ€¦

He passed by lots of trees and low branches along the way and even tripped on some of the roots but he immediately recovered and got up to resume running. He could only hope some people were there too to help them overcome whatever this dragon was. As soon as he reached the site he bumped into someoneâ€¦

"Ah! Again!? Why does this keep happening to me!?" Ruffnut yelled as she fell once more off course, she looked at the person she bumped into and then rolled her eyes, "Seriously Thug, you couldn't be more careful?"

"Well, I would have if the fate of the quest doesn't lie on this

final test." He replied and got up and even helped Ruffnut up, "Your majesty." He bowed to her in which she only replied a nod. Ruffnut dusted off her hands and looked at himâ€¦

"The quest?" she asked, "Or Astrid?" he kept silent and Heather stared at the two of them back and forth and let out a coughâ€¦

"Uh, less talking more rescuing shall we?" she asked and they both agreed and took off running once more. Once they did arrive, the sky was already dark enough that the dragon was already out of its tunnel and in the open ground. Dagur was busy holding it back while Camicazi was having a hard time carrying both an injured Astrid and a knocked out Tuffnut back in the deep holeâ€¦

"Are you done yet?!" Dagur yelled towards herâ€¦

"No!"

"Hurry! I can't hold much longer!"

"Well you're gonna have to!" she continued to support Astrid as she tried to climb her way out, "Are you sure you can hold on?" she asked in concern and Astrid just noddedâ€¦

"Yeah, I just sprained an ankle." She replied, "Where's my axe?"

"Whatever do you need it for?"

"I need it for killing a dragon." She hissed through her teeth as she held back the pain, "The least I could do is slow it down by throwing it towards the pesky dragon." She replied and slowly got up, "Hurry and pick Tuffnut up."

"Alright, alright," she replied and turned to face the unconscious Tuffnut, "I sure hope he survives this day."

"He will, he's a tough guy." She said and looked up, "I'm almost out, hand me my axe."

"Fine," Camicazi said and handed it to her, "You only get one chance to throw it."

"I know." She said and climbed out. As soon as she reached the outside world she almost got crashed down by the tail but luckily, she dodged it just in time and rolled out of the way. She grunted and leaned against a tree bark and tried to stand up, she looked back at the battlegroundâ€¦

Thuggory was catching the dragon's attention by swinging its sword around it while Dagur tried to wrap its neck with a rope. Ruffnut had reached the hole already and tried to assist Camicazi of getting her brother out while Heather came up beside herâ€¦

"Are you okay?" Heather asked herâ€¦

"You-your highness," she said in surprise and bowed down, "What are you doing here?!"

"I came to help." She said and showed her the bow and arrows she

carried around, "You have to rest."

"No! get me close enough to the dragon." Astrid muttered, "I have to try."

"You've done enough."

"No! please Heather." She said, "I have to!" Heather obliged and supported Astrid as they came in a closer view. Tuffnut was out and Ruffnut was tending to him already, soon enough Camicazi came charging in with her dagger and managed to get on and stab it somewhere in the back and made it roar with pain!

Thuggory saw his chance and slashed the dragon's underside, which made it turn its attention back to him, and both knights were exchanging blows while Dagur still tried to choke it to its death, which would have worked had the rope been strong enough to withhold the dragon. Astrid told Heather to move aside and she did, as soon as she got a clear shot of the neck she poised herself to throw her axe!

"Dagur let go!" she shouted, "Now!" and threw her axe as soon as Dagur did as he was told. Sure enough it did get stuck in the dragon's neck but now it had its attention on her and it was determined to take her down with it, and with a broken ankle she knew she can't run as fast as she could to duck and avoid, just as it was about to strike her an arrow shot him in the eye and made him turn the other way around...

"Princess!" every one of them shouted as it charged towards Heather, but somehow Fishlegs came charging in and jumped off the high ground and raised his hammer high above him and struck it down Astrid's axe with a mighty blow! completely severing the head of the whispering death, as well as its terror with the villagers!

Everyone breathed and panted as the rush and adrenaline was slowly leaving their body and they stared at the head and Fishlegs back and forth. Fishlegs dropped his mace and fell his knees to the ground, still in complete disbelief with what he just did to the dragon, "I-I'm sorry I, uh, I didn't mean for it to-"

"It's okay Fish," Thuggory said, placing a reassuring squeeze upon his shoulders, "You did what you had to do." He then walked around the severed head and stared at it in disgust, "What do you say we get this over with and come back Princess?" he stared at Heather whose eyes were as wide as saucers since she was just as near to an imminent death a while ago. She nodded towards him and he told Dagur to wrap it up, "Let's go back."

They got back to their horses and Ruffnut had to haul Tuffnut onto his horse, while Camicazi assisted Astrid up on hers. Dagur was left to carry the head as proof, and Heather rode with Thuggory on their way to the palace. The trip was silent and Camicazi kept a close eye on Heather the whole time, while Fishlegs remained silent and seemed to be in a daze as he stared at the bag Dagur was carrying. Dagur sensed this and patted the bag!

"You want to carry it Fish?" he asked, "I bet you'll feel better if you do."

"Dagur." Thuggory scolded, "Leave him alone." Dagur just chuckled and stopped anyway as they continued on with their way. As soon as the castle came into view, that was when Fishlegs finally spoke up to themâ€|

"Do you," he started, "Do you think dragons will sense it if you have already killed a dragon?" he asked, and made the others stop as well, "I mean it'll make perfect sense if they do since they do have higher senses than us. Do you think they'll still accept us?" Camicazi let out a sigh and got down from her horse and started to approach himâ€|

"Cami," Thuggory tried to call out, but Camicazi put her hand up to silence himâ€|

"Don't stop me," she said to Thuggory and paid attention to Fishlegs, "Is this what it's all about then?" she asked approaching him, and when she finally got near him she pulled him down to her level, "You've got to stop feeling sorry for yourself, because you did as you are told Fishlegs," she whispered to him, "You did the right thing, and sometimes there are things way out of control that don't end up like how we hope it will be." She said and let him go, "We're going to go through those gates and people will praise you not because you killed a dragon," she said and went back to her own horse, "But because you save them from a greater evil than what may happen had you not let it die." And with that they resumed their ridingâ€|

The gates opened up for them and the king's men came out to greet them first, and then came the king afterwards. He looked to his daughter, and then back to her knights and to the bloodied bag. He nodded towards Savage who immediately retrieved the bag and looked inside it. He then came to whisper to the king and he was quickly dismissedâ€|

"I see your knights are indeed ready, Princess," he said and placed his attention towards them, "Come, let's give you a warm bath and tend to those wounds shall we, and then afterwards celebrate all of you for saving us from a terrible terror that could have occurred in our island." He said and the guards let them in. Heather in came after them, "Not you." Her father commanded that she was forced to stay backâ€|

"Didn't I tell you to stay in the palace?"

"Father I'm fine, I survived-"

"You disobeyed me." He butted in, "Because of this your knights shall go in before you could to Berk."

"But father-"

"You are only to go there once they are absolutely sure there would only be the prince there waiting for you." He said and nodded to some of his knights, "Make sure she gets to her room." And they took her away. Nothing should happen to Heather, if there will be, he might as well kiss his empire a goodbyeâ€|

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Tuffnut and the others were taken to the infirmary as soon as they arrived in the palace grounds. They were bathed and taken care of during their stay there and were left to lie down on the beds. Each one of them lay down on their pillows and slowly drifted off to sleep. As soon as the celebration started, not one of them was allowed outside and was only served of the finest food from the king's table. They needed to rest, at least that was the excuse given to themâ€|

"If we're served like this always then I'll be happy to go out to kill dragons." Dagur muttered as he ate the food. Thuggory threw him a small pea and gestured towards Fishlegs who wasn't eating, "Oh Odin," Dagur mumbled, "You can't \_still \_be bummed about the whole dragon killing are you?"

"Come on Fish, eat up, if you aren't I will." Thuggory said as well, "The food's really excellent." He whispered and finally Fishlegs let out a sigh and started eating, "Atta boy." Thuggory said and smiled and continue to eatâ€|

The day ended without much of a ruckus and they all rested well before they were quickly summoned to the throne room as they were being called out by the king. They got ready and put on their armours and weapons on them which were all cleaned and sharpened as soon as they arrived last night. Their dragons too finally woke up and managed to greet them on their way to the throne room and Fishlegs was back to his old nerdy self. And everyone was all normal againâ€|

As soon as they reached the throne room, the king was seated in his throne and beaming happily down upon them, but the princess wasn't sitting beside him. Alvin noticed this, and let out a cough to gather their attentionâ€|

"Ah, yes, you all would be wondering where your princess is," he said, "Well, she'sâ€| mm, detained for a while."

"Detained?" Camicazi spoke up first, "Why?"

"Well, she acted out of my orders." He reasoned

"But you said we should kill the drag-" Fishlegs said but was cut offâ€|

"Yesâ€| \_\*\*you\*\*\_, as in all of you, that didn't include her." he said, "And because of that I'm sending you off first \_\*\*without \*\*\_your princess to make sure she'll have no trouble on her way to seeing Prince Hiccup." Camicazi scoffed silently at himâ€|

"Might as well give us the honour to kiss the prince then," she muttered to herself, but Alvin heard her loud enoughâ€|

"Something funny?" he asked and she shook her head, "And if any \_\*\*one \*\*\_of you gets any ideas while searching for the princeâ€| you'll be punishedâ€| severely." He said and leaned back, "Now you can go now." He said, but Astrid came forwardâ€|

"When are we allowed to go?" she asked

"Any time you likeâ€¦ though I really do prefer it to be right this instant." He said, "Supplies are all ready, as they always are." He said, "I was only waiting for you to be ready." He said and the knights wasted no time in delaying the questâ€¦

"Well it seems like all our training days are behind us." Tuffnut added, "Now we get to really destroy stuff." He said smirking with his sister who only laughed along with him and bumped him in the head and they began to prepare to leaveâ€¦

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The next day, the knights had left their beds early at the break of dawn and bid goodbye to their princess. Their dragons had been already readied and the villagers had come to the palace gates to bid their warriors goodbye. Each of them had bid goodbye to their families with the exception of Thuggory, Dagur and Camicazi. As soon as it was time, they all mounted their dragons and took off, looking back at their beloved island, not knowing if they'll live to tell the tale of their princess ever marrying the prince. After they have flown away from the island, Alvin then went to the meeting room to seek councilâ€¦

"Sire I suggest you go and send the princess out." Suggested one of the eldersâ€¦

"On a dragon?! Are you out of your mind?" he exclaimed, "She'll just catch up to them!"

"Then not by dragon," said Mildew, "By ship then, by the time they reach berk, her knights would have already reached their nights before, dragons do get tired and they'll need to find land as quick as possible." He said. Alvin thought about it for a while and seemed to like the idea. He then turned to Savage who was standing behind himâ€¦

"Get your crew together, and tell the princess to get ready." He ordered and went to face the council again, "However, someone will have to keep the princess in check, and she does tend to rebel a lot." Alvin said and looked to Mildewâ€¦

"Me, sire?" he asked, "I would love the honour to go to Berk."

"I know you would, which is why I'm sending you. Report back to me whatever you find." He said and stood up, "Thank you for your wisdom." And they all stood up and left. As soon as no one was left Alvin sat back down and began to think, until the door openedâ€¦

"Mother," he said in surprise, "What brings you out from your quarters?"

"Oh nothing really," she said, "Are you sure you are going to risk

your daughter's life?"

"It's not a risk if she's going to wake the prince up," he countered, "And we'll be more powerful than ever."

"True but, don't you remember the precautions?" she said and walked around, "I was there when King Stoic made his desperate speech." She then turned around, "Just make sure in the process that she was the right person to grace the prince's lips." And she left him pondering with his thoughts and about his daughter's fateâ€|

As soon as the Outcast's ship was readied, they fetch the princess from out of her quarters and she wasted no time in preparing as she had it all prepared as soon as she found an opening to escape. In the process of admitting her plan, she got a glare from her father who only let out a hopeless sigh towards her and let her out.

She boarded the ship and looked towards the horizon, where the sun was already beginning to rise. Hopefully this was going to be a short trip. She's been waiting for this moment to finally see the prince again, and hopefully he did not forget her. After all she had been dreaming of a true love's kiss. Hopefully her love was good enough, and but deep inside as pure as she tried to keep her thoughts that way, there's still her father's blood in her, where she just can't wait to rule a powerful empire and make everyone else bow down to her willâ€|

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"When do you think we're going to get there?" Tuffnut complained, "I'm feeling sick with all this sea." He said and let out another vomit to the sea. Fishlegs cringed at the sight and shivered, but stared back at the map given to them, after all they have never step foot outside their island, so now; they were charting new territoriesâ€|

"Uh, I can't really say, but judging by the way we are speeding up right now, we'll reach there by nightfall." He said and turned to look behind them, "What was our goal again?"

"We reach there before nightfall," Astrid replied, "There's danger lurking inside that forest of thorns, or so I've heard."

"And where'd you get that from?" asked Camicazi, "I bet my rations you're just too scared."

"I got it from trader Johann." She said, "He was extremely generous about the news from Berk."

"Oh, and what is the news?"

"That we should be careful," she said and stared at Camicazi in the eye, "Even the mightiest of warriors coming from the different Vikingdoms weren't ever seen going out." And with that they quickened their pacingâ€|

"Well, whatever dangers are behind there I'm pretty sure Moody and I can get through it." She exclaimed proudly while Astrid just rolled her eyes at herâ€|

"Even so," Dagur said, "I know I usually go charging head on, but I never liked it when I can't see where I'm hitting."

"Dagur's right," Thuggory butted in, "In those thorny forest, its best we have the light on our side." Camicazi just scoffed at them and urged Moody to go and fly faster. She was just sick with being with them. Why on earth did she have to go in this stupid rounds anyway? The moment she reaches the tower, she's going to make sure she'll wake up the princeâ€| and Princess Heather could kiss her empire goodbye. She knows what Heather truly wantsâ€| because she wants it tooâ€|

Power.

That's what everyone wants more than loveâ€|

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As they sailed towards Berk, Heather leaned to the edge of the ship and just stared at the waves crashing the deck below. Mildew came up beside her and breathed in the air of the seawater and looked to the princess who seemed bored not being able to go anywhere, "Something troubling you milady?" he asked, she stared at him for a while and then let out a sighâ€|

"How will we know if they succeeded?" she asked, "We won't have any means of communication in there." He nodded in understandingâ€|

"There is a tale," he started, "That dragon's blood will hide your scent from dragons. This is the very reason why long ago, Vikings, like us, kill dragons. So they can go to the forbidden fortress and kill the red death. But that of courseâ€| is just a story."

"Justâ€| a story?" she asked in confusion, "How come I have never heard of that before? And what's a red death?"

"Ah yes," he said, "That was banned when Hiccup the first managed to tame a dragon. And the red deathâ€| well they say that this dragon was just a myth. No one's ever seen it, except of course some soothsayers from long ago saying that Prince Hiccup the first will slay it, but he made history when he tamed a monstrous nightmare instead."

"And how come you've heard of it?"

"Well my dear," he said, "Because my family was one of the oldest families ever to live from the olden times, up until now. To have this mark as an old family, we pass it down to our descendants, so they will know what lineage they come from."

"Andâ€¦ what kind of lineage do you come from?" she asked curiously, he stared at her smirkingâ€¦

"Weren't you listening?" he said, "Only descendants will we tell it to." And he left to leave her to her newfound thoughts.

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After hours and hours of flight, Fishlegs took out his looking glass once more and scanned over the area, "If my calculations are correct, we should start seeing Berk, right aboutâ€¦"

"There!" Astrid exclaimed as she pointed out to the horizon, "That's Berk isn't it?" Fishlegs took a closer peek at it through his looking glass, and indeed all he saw were thornsâ€¦

"Yeah," he said shrugging, "That's most probably it." And they all start to fly towards it. As soon as they tried to land on it, their dragons refused to land, "Uh, I think this is another way of saying don't enter?" he asked his fellow knightsâ€¦

"Please," Camicazi said and swung her feet to the other side, "If they're not landing I am." She said and jumped out of her dragon, soon enough, the others followed in suit, with the exception of Fishlegs, "Well, you coming or not?" Camicazi shouted, Fishlegs shook his head and gestured to the dragonsâ€¦

"Noâ€¦ I'm good here, someone's got to stay with the dragonsâ€¦ right?" he whispered the last part to himself and the others seemed to buy it, and left him alone in the air with five more dragons and Meatlug. "Well, I guess it's me and you guys." He said and stared at the dark forest of thorns, "Dear Odin, please protect them."

As soon as they were approaching the forest of thorns, the sky began to darken, "It's going to rain soon," Astrid said, "We should set up camp somewhere inside, the thorns may not be much of a shelter, but it's all we have."

"I thought you said its best we go in when there is light on our advantage?" Camicazi butted in, "Then why are we going in there?"

"Well, I did say it was **\*\*best\*\***," she said, "But its fine too if we take shelter now." Camicazi gave her an icy stare while the others did as Astrid said and began to go in. Astrid held her glare and stood her ground as well, but it only broke when the skies began to bring out thunder and lightning. Astrid soon followed the others, while Camicazi glared daggers behind her back. Once she wake the prince up, she was going to make sure Astrid will be the first outcast she'll take care ofâ€¦

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><p><strong>Oâ€¦ there's a tension there between Astrid and Camicazi. They are both brilliant girls, and will get along well if

both their prides are lowered don't you think? Anyway, what's Fishlegs suppose to do while he's out with the other dragons? When do you think the princess's ship will arrive in Berk? What dangers will the knights of rounds face? And how much longer will it take for them to reach the castle and to climb up the highest tower?

\*\*All that in the next chapter or more chapters to come.\*\*

\*\*Hpnarutardsjedipirate1234 \*\*

\*\*11092013\*\*

#### 4. Chapter 4

\*\*Disclaimer: I do not own How to train your dragon or anything at all\*\*

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><p><strong>~True Love's Kiss Chapter 4~<strong>

\_\*\*Ghost Town\*\*\_

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><p>As the storm arrived at Berk, the knights all took shelter underneath the thorns. Although the rain poured hard not much reached them as the thorns all grew stiff and thick through the pass four years. They did not dare cut down any of its stalk for fear that it could be one of the dangers within the forest. After they set up camp, both Thuggory and Tuffnut went to the rock side to try and catch some fish for dinner. They did come back with a handful, enough to last them until the morning before they'd go fishing again for more. It wouldn't be nice to go get some more if they still had plenty.<p>

They got up early in the morning and began to move their way through the thorns, careful not to prick into any of it or stumble upon it unexpectedly, even the twins were behaved. They kept their eyes open for any movements and moved quietly around them. As they went deeper, the less they could actually see the light anymore and the harder it was for them to see. Luckily for them, they reached a clearing and managed to pry of some of the thorns, thanks to Dagur who had become irritated of all the thorns

"I swear these thorns are going to be the death of me!" Dagur murmured as he pried off the thorns, "They're not so sharp too." He said as he was scathed a little only, "Come on," he gestured to the others, "I think we just reached the ghost town." He said as he was the first to see it clearly. The houses seemed untouched and were preserved well, but they were already covered in thorns every single house. As soon as the others had entered it, they gasped at the sight of the town

"This is" Astrid said as she looked around, "Where are the villagers?"

"Inside" Ruffnut said as she looked through one of the windows,

"Sleeping." She finished as she held onto her spear, "This place looks very gloomyâ€¦ the whole kingdom's asleep."

"Ugh," Tuffnut said shivering, "Imagine people sleeping for like four years or so, never waking upâ€¦ it's like they're dead but still alive."

"These people are missing out from all the fun," Thuggory added, "And Fishlegs."

"Yeah, what happened to Fishlegs?" Astrid asked to the people around her who only shrugged their shoulders. Dagur staggered a bit from his steps, and every one of them looked at him. He looked at them for a bit with confusionâ€¦

"What?"

"Are youâ€¦ okay?" Camicazi asked and he just nodded at her, "Ohâ€¦"

"Yeah, just a bit stuffed that's all." He said and waved them off, "Come on, we've got to reach the castle as soon as possible. We've reached the town, maybe we'll get there in no time at all." And they continued to walkâ€¦

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After the guys went inside, Fishlegs immediately took off to find someplace where the dragons won't mind landing in. Apparently, they did result to just staying in the place where he figured was the docks of Berk, had they not been covered in thorns and were still sleeping. He looked around and tended to the dragons, trying to redeem himself as he still felt guilty about killing the dragon back in the woods in Outcast Island.

He looked back at the place where he had last seen them and felt guilt slowly creep up on him. What if he was needed in there? What if he failed the team? He shook the thoughts out of his head and resumed tending to the dragons. He looked back at the sea and wondered what he'd do if they weren't to returnâ€¦ how would he know they did manage to reach the castle? There was just too many questions filling his head and once again he cleared it, focusing with the task at hand.

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Heather has been anxious in getting to Berk as soon as possible. She wonders what has happened to her rounds, and was worried about them. Even if at first they were only formed as pawns, she has grown closer to them, and missed them dearlyâ€¦

"Something troubling you, princess?" Mildew asked her as he came by

to sit beside her, "Thinking too much is never a good sign, you just might decide upon the wrong thing."

"Yeah, well, not thinking it thoroughly will bring more harm." She rebutted. He shrugged his shoulders in agreement with her and looked at the endless sea surrounding them, "How long does it take to reach an island?" she asked him

"Well, it's been so long since I last step foot in Berk's soil," Mildew admitted, "I don't really remember, but I recon it won't be long now. We'll just have to hope that the winds are on our side." He then turned around to leave her once more. She stared back onto the sea and looked down below as she let out a sigh. What is she going to do? She pushed herself away from the edge and began to move around the deck to look for things to do, so far there was nothingâ€¦|

She went up towards the helm where Savage was steering, "Steady now mates," he called out, "We wouldn't want to destroy our own vessel now, do we?" he instructed as he watched the crew assemble harpoons and canons, chaining them to the sides. "Quite tricky is the path to Berk, your majesty," he said, "So many years passed, and not single news about what we could expect on our way there."

"Why?" she asked curiously, "Is there something we should know about?"

"Oh there's always something we should know, milady," he replied, "It's how we obtain it is what makes it harder for us to know. In this case, we have to experience it, because no one else can tell us otherwise."

"How can you say that? What rumours are there?"

"Oh not rumours miss," he said, "Facts. Sailors four years ago brave these very same waters in attempt to steal the riches in Berk, but none of them ever returned." He said, "Trader Johann says the trip going in is a rough path, but going outâ€¦| well, you can't expect to survive the attack if you barely survived going in then."

"So that's why-"

"People would rather travel in dragons," he said nodding, "It's less risky that way, but the forest is more dangerous than the sea."

"How would you know?" she asked, "You haven't gone near it in the past four years."

"True," he admitted, "But at least Trader Johann was able to return \_alive\_â€¦| not leaving us a mystery about what happened to them."

"He tried to get into Berk?"

"Aye," he replied, "But he never got that farther in, as soon as the thunderdrums started to attack, he turned his boat around and got away in the nick of time."

"Why was he going there?"

"Why else?" he asked as if the answer was obvious, "Berk's culture is



the richest amongst all of us, and I recon whatever's in there right now is something worth trading for."

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They walked further into the village and were, in a way, sight-seeing. They stared in amazement and confusion as they stared at the sleeping and breathing forms of people. They even tried nudging them awake and every way possible they know with waking them up, but eventually it failed. No one awakened and they proceeded to walk before them. Apparently, those who came before them were truly barbaric as they raided the houses of the sleeping peopleâ€|

They entered one of the ransacked cottages and gasped at the sight they metâ€|

In the middle of the kitchen was a skeleton, which was still reeking with its stench and a few flies from here and there. The cupboards were open and multiple jars were crashed down to the floor. The rotten provisions of the villagers remain scattered in their household and their hearts swelled with pity as they looked at their hopeless state. A clatter and a sound of something tumbling down could be heard from behind them and they all whipped their heads aroundâ€|

Dagur had eventually tripped into something and managed to break one more of the properties these people had, "Sorry," he said, wobbling a bit as he stood up, "Lost focus or something." He said and waved them off, "Found anything yet?"

"Noâ€| none so far." Thuggory said as he poked at the skeleton, "But something must be close by if this knight died in here. We're not even that far from the docks." He said, "Let's keep looking." Every one of them nodded their heads and began to leave the cottageâ€|

"What do you think killed that soldier?" Camicazi asked him and he shrugged his shouldersâ€|

"I don't knowâ€| but whatever did, that knight tried to stop it 'til his last breath." He said. The twins trailed behind the team, and were getting bored. Eventually, they couldn't contain themselves anymore and both of them stared at each other knowingly, before their faces broke into a grin and began to nudge each other. Apparently at one time it started to become too much that they started to punch each other and ultimately ended in a fightâ€|

Astrid heard the ruckus from behind them and turned around, "Sigh, I guess they just can't contain it any longer," she said and walked back. The others followed in suit, taking their sweet time, until eventually Tuffnut managed to land a good punch to his sister, who made her stumble back and into a bunch of thornsâ€|

"Ouch!" Ruffnut exclaimed, "Okay fine, you win this round." She said holding up her hands in defeat and stood up, dusting off some dirt from her and then looked at the others who just reached them, "Come

to join in on our fun?" she asked smiling at them.

"Well too bad," Tuffnut added, "It's over and I won!" he exclaimed and pumped his fists up in the air. The others just smiled at them and just turned around.

"Come on," Astrid said smiling at them, "We still have a task to finish." She said and began to walk away, "Which way's to the town market?"

"You seriously think they'll have something still usable in there?" Camicazi butted in, "In case you haven't noticed, they didn't do anything for the past four years!"

"Some things might still be of use to us," Thuggory butted in, "Not everything is perishable." Astrid smiled at her in triumph at Camicazi, who just continued to glare at her and followed Thuggory as he began walking towards somewhere.

They kept walking throughout the village, still not being able to pinpoint which way to the town market, so they just resulted in raiding the homes, they vowed to repay them anyway. "Dagur, would you do the honour?" Thuggory gestured to one of the doors that were still covered in thorns. Dagur unsheathed his axe and slashed it down and opened it wide for them to enter.

"Dude are you okay?" Tuffnut asked as he stared closely at Dagur, "You don't look so well, you're all sweaty!" he pointed out and Astrid came up on them and placed her hand on his forehead and let out a gasp.

"You're burning up," she said and looked around, "Come on, we have to cure you first. Tuff, Ruff go search for any herbs we could use, Thug," she called out and he stared at her, "Get me some water and cloth." She then stared back at Dagur. His eyelids were barely holding up and he was hot as boiling water. She then began to loosen up some of his armour with Camicazi's help and finally took out his gloves where she paused. Camicazi stared at his hand too and dropped the armour she was holding.

"Odin," Astrid said as she stared at Dagur's hand, "Dagur you're-

"Poisoned?" he said, "Figured that much by now." He managed to say. And both girls waited for him to proceed; "You have to find Ruffnut," he choked out, "She might be poisoned too." He finished and could feel himself burning up.

"Why?"

"The thorns. I bet they're the poison." He said and Astrid stood up to dash out. Camicazi just kept glaring at him and turned away, "I'm not the only one keeping secrets around here Cami," he said and she stopped and turned around, "Just make sure in the end you won't regret keeping it."

"Secrets?" Thuggory asked as he entered the living room. He laid down the bowl of water and cloth at the table and stared at them, his hands upon his sides, "What secret? And where's Astrid?" he asked both of them. They stared at each other before Camicazi let out a

sighâ€|

"Dagur's poisoned, and apparently he got it from the thorns,"

"So that means-"

"Yes."

"We have to find Ruffnut."

"Astrid's already on it." She answered and Thuggory remained silent as he stared at Dagur's sweaty formâ€|

"We have to look for herbs that can cure the poison." He said

"Where would we get that?" Camicazi said, "If Fishlegs were here he'd know what to do."

"The town market," he answered and Camicazi stared at him as if he grew another headâ€|

"Well if we know where it is then sure why not?" she replied and he reached into his pockets before pulling it out. Camicazi stared in confusion as she looked upon the piece of parchment Thuggory had just produced, "What the Hel is that?" she asked and he unfolded itâ€|

"It took me some time to figure it out," he said, "But this is Berk's map." He said and showed it to her, "A child drew thisâ€| and I say this is the closest thing we got to finding out way through this forest. What do you say and go to find some cure?" she bit her lip for a while before looking back at Dagur and let out a sighâ€|

"Fine." She said, "But as soon as we leave someone here with him."

"Agreed."

Meanwhile, Tuffnut and Ruffnut were still looking over some of the herbs they have gathered and tried to decipher which was whichâ€|

"Are you sure these stuff are real herbs?" Ruffnut asked as she stared at it intently, "They seemâ€|" she dozed off and shook her head. She tried to focus on it once more, but it became blurry, "â€| never mind." She muttered and touched her temples. Something was wrongâ€|

"Yeah, I'm positive." He said as he wrapped the herbs carefully, "Come on sis, we have to get back." He said and started walking, "You know, I really don't know where Dagur got his fever anyway; I mean we all lived in the same environment, so what could he have possibly done to get one. What do you think Ruff?" he asked and looked behind him, "Ruff?" he said once more as he looked around this time, "Ain't funny Ruff, where the Hel are you!?" he shouted as he looked for his sisterâ€|

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Astrid was running as fast as she could, dodging and avoiding every branch with thorns on them. If they were poisonous, she wasn't sure how long it'll take for it to take effect, and how long Dagur has left. She run past plenty of home and eventually knew which path they had taken as soon as she saw their prints. She reached the clearing where there was a bunch of dead plants. The results of farming without tending to it for four yearsâ€|

She breathed hard as she looked for any sign of the twins before moving around carefully, trying to see where they went next. She reached the barn, where there were all kinds of preservatives in the jars. She eyed each and every single one of them carefully, hoping there was something to help cure the poison, but was disheartened as soon as she realized there was no anti-toxin herb around. It was probably in the town marketâ€|

If only she knew how to get thereâ€|

She heard something falling down on the other side and approached it, with her axe at the ready. She moved away from the heaps of hay and slowly approached the fallen ladder, where her eyes widened. She secured her axe in her waist before kneeling down to remove the ladder lying on top of an unconscious Ruffnut. She turned her over and checked her pulse and sighed in relief when she could still feel her heartbeat. She felt Ruffnut's forehead and could feel her start to heat up and hauled her upâ€|

"Come on," she whispered and looked around, "Where's Tuffnut?" she whispered. Tuffnut was nowhere to be found. It was odd since they were inseparable, like their zipperbackâ€| not like it had any choice of course. She felt Ruffnut stir and opened her eyesâ€|

"A-Astrid?" she asked, "Tu-Tuffnutâ€| where is he?" she asked, "We-we have to find him." She managed to say as she slowly slipped into unconsciousnessâ€|

"We will," she said, "As soon as we get you taken care of." She said as she supported Ruffnut's weight and brought her to the hut where Camicazi, Thuggory and a really sweaty Dagur were already waiting for them. She laid Ruffnut gently on the couch, in which Dagur had to sit up to allow some room for Ruffnut. The poison was already taking its effect on the twin, and Ruffnut was beginning to feel the burning sensation ride up her bodyâ€|

"Stay here Astrid," Thuggory commanded, "Camicazi and I will go to the town market to find some medicine for them." He then nodded to Camicazi and both rushed out of the house and began rushing to the town market. Astrid could only look at their retreating back and hope they'd return as quickly as possible. She looks back at Dagur who was slowly slipping into unconsciousness, and then to Ruffnut, who was beginning to sweat as wildly as Dagur didâ€|

She looked back outside scanning the areasâ€|

Where was Tuffnut?

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Camicazi and Thuggory ran through the thorns, careful not to get themselves scratched along the way. Thuggory went first slashing every branch being placed before them, not stopping because time is of the essence. Camicazi trailed after him, looking out for the other dangers that might be within the forest of thorns. They ran in synch up until they heard a groan not too far away from them. Both warriors stopped and turned aroundâ€¦

"What was that?" Thuggory asked Camicaziâ€¦

"I don't know," she answered still looking around, "But whatever's out there we need to hurry." She said facing him and then it roared again and Thuggory came up beside her and unfolded the map once more. He looked over it again and pointed somewhere due eastâ€¦

"I think it's coming from that direction," he said and Camicazi had taken a look to where it leadsâ€¦

"It leads towards-"

"The castle," he said and almost tried to change his course, "No, we have to go back to the others and get the cure." He said and turned around, but Camicazi wouldn't move, "Cami, come on," he said and gestured towards the town market. She looked back to the palace and then back at Thuggoryâ€¦

"How about we split up?" she asked and he stared at her as if she was crazyâ€¦

"That's ridiculous and dangerous!" he exclaimed, "The best chance of us surviving this is if we stick together," he said and grabbed her wrist, "I'm not having any more of us in harm's way!" he began to tug her with him but she pulled backâ€¦

"I can do this!" she pushed on, "We were trained for this moment, and we could not miss this chance!" she explained, "If we both go there, we may lose our direction towards the castle-"

"We're not even sure-"

"Just listen to me," she butted once more, "You go and get the cure to the others, I go and clear our paths towards the castle, that way we can all find our way back to each other and we won't even have to go through the trouble of finding it because I already had a head start." She pleaded to him. He stared at her hesitantly and back to the direction where they heard a roar, and suddenly there was a shake in the groundâ€¦

He looked up at her and nudged her to go, "Go," he said pushing her to the direction she wanted to go, "And be careful." He said and she nodded, "Wait," he called again and she came back and he handed her something. It was a small vial, where there was a bunch of powder placed inside of it. She brought it up before her eyes and stared at it in confusionâ€¦

"What's this rubbish?" she asked him, and he let out a sighâ€|

"It's a sleeping powder, something I took from Astrid." He said, "Use it wisely," he said and she nodded and went away cutting down every branch. Thuggory kept watch behind Camicazi until he could see her no longer. The ground began shaking once more and there was a mighty roar heard throughout the forest, before he began to cut down every branch once again and ran further away from the soundâ€|

As soon as he managed to finally reach the town's market, he looked back at his trail and saw the pathway he had made all disappear and he instantly panicked. As soon as he started to cut down the thorns, he was greeted by even more thorns, and suddenly more sprouted up and he had dodged it just in time. He grit his teeth and turned back around to look for the medicine needed for Ruffnut and Dagur, then he can worry about Tuffnut's whereabouts and how Camicazi is faringâ€|

As soon as he stepped forward to the town market, a whispering death sprouted abruptly at the ground and had its teeth barred at him, ready to strike. He held out his sword and it hissed towards him pulling back and then dove its head to the ground. Fortunately, he rolled aside just in time and got up from his spot, barely missing the snapping jaws of the whispering death who sprouted up once more and he made a run for itâ€|

"Not another whispering deathâ€|" he groaned as he stared at the dragonâ€|

The whispering death had taken a little time to search for its prey and had its eyes locked on Thuggory's running form. For years all it did was stay down low, and the herds have disappeared. Most of the dragons have stayed trapped within the forest and were unable to get out. Their only provisions of food were the sheep and cattle and pigs left by the villagers four years ago. When their sources have depleted they have starved and have been fighting to death, and so far, a human was the best way to satisfy its hunger until the whole village is awake, and then they can go back to their dietâ€|

It went after Thuggory who quickly evaded all its attacks and got into one of the market where he ducked and hid behind one of the craters. He panted and tried to keep his breathing low to not give away his position. He looked around him, hoping to find something that could possibly be the medicine he was looking for, until he stared at the empty filled jar, which was labelled as anti-toxin and poisonâ€|

His breathing momentarily stopped, and he could feel himself sigh in relief, but his problems were still not over. He got out for a little bit and watched both his sides before he was sure that the dragon wasn't onto him \_yet\_. He crept out as stealthily as he could and took a peak above the crater and saw that the whispering death was nowhere to be seen, yet he kept one of his hands to his sides, and crept as slowly as he can towards the most fragile part of their journeyâ€|

As soon as the jar was almost within reach, and he could almost feel the success of his little quest, when the whispering death had eventually sprouted right beside him and knocked off the shelf and

him off of his feet. He had released the grip of his sword due to the gash of the dragon's teeth on his arm. He clutched his bloodied arm in pain and bit back the screamâ€¦ he shouldn'tâ€¦ he wouldn'tâ€¦

He looked back up at the whispering death who was already hovering above him and took out his good arm, clutching something in it and quickly threw his cape over him as soon as the whispering death's head was low enough and threw the sleeping powder upon it. The dragon had sniffed it directly and managed to inhale most of it and sneezed due to the irritation. Its head wobbled a bit before falling to the ground asleepâ€¦

Thuggory threw his cape aside and sat up, nursing his wounded arm and hissed in pain. He then stared at the bag of powder he had taken from Astrid, and began wondering where trader Johann had procured it from. He staggered from his steps realizing that he had a sprained ankle somewhere. He approached the knocked out shelf and sighed in relief when the jar was still intact, and not broken or leaking. He picked it up and opened it for a while and took a sniff. He figured it would be still effective and placed it gently into his satchel and picked up his sword, and went over some knives and pocketed it to easily accessible areas. He went over to some medical kits too and managed to get some clean cloth and some rumâ€¦

He poured over some of the alcohol onto his wound and grunted in pain, while drinking some of it. He took the cloth and then wrapped it around the wound poorly and began his journey back. Clutching his sword with his good arm, he swung it with all his might towards his blocked entrance and the thornsâ€¦ all of it, fell down and crumbled into ashes. His challenge was over and he stared in awe at what had just happenedâ€¦

He was waiting for some thorns to sprout, but none did and that was only when he brave the way and took the first step into the path. When no thorns sprouted, he breathed a sigh of relief and started walking back. But when he heard the rumbling of sound at his back, he turned around and saw that some thorns started to sprout once more, and he picked up his paceâ€¦ forcing his feet to run as fast as they could, ignoring the pain.

The thorns sprouted fast behind him and luckily he managed to get as far away from it as possible, but still he did not slow down. He looked back at his wounded arm and saw it all bloodied already and cursed under his breath, but kept going onâ€¦

The faster he gets back to Dagur and Ruffnut, the less he could worry aboutâ€¦

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Astrid had taken the nth bowl of clean water by now and was now worried sick at the condition of her two companions. She draped the cloth over Dagur's head and checked his pulse. She already took the liberty of lessening the poison from spreading out through his body by wounding his hand and letting the poison drip from it. Thankfully it did work, but on Ruffnut it was a bit tricky.

Her source of poison was from her left side's back, and it was dangerously close from her heart. She took a small knife from the kitchen and turned her over to the sideâ€|

"Ruff, I'm not sure if this will turn out well, but I have to do this, can you still hear me?" she asked Ruffnut who noddedâ€|

"Can you still understand me?" she asked again and Ruffnut nodded, "I'm gonna cut through behind you, but not too deep, just enough for the poison to seep out of, okay?" she asked and Ruffnut stared at her as if to ask if she's serious, "I'm not a doctor I know, but it's the only thing I know." She said and Ruffnut gave her the go signal to proceedâ€|

"Just make it quick," she said, "I don't like getting hurt." She finished before laying her head on the pillow. Dagur watched them through sleepy eyes and looked outside, the sky was getting dark, and Camicazi, Thuggory and Tuffnut was nowhere to be seen. He hopes they get back soonâ€|

Astrid managed to get the poison seep out from her system, and was proud at her work. She advised Ruffnut to lie down on her side and caught the dripping poison through one of the utensils she found in the kitchen writing a note to the sleeping owners. Ruffnut could feel herself getting better, and looked up at Astrid who was now washing the knifeâ€|

"Where are they?" she croaked out, "Do you have some water?" Astrid looked around and took a glass and offered it to her, "Thanks," she said and drank the glass of water and handed it back to Astrid who washed it once more. Fortunately, they heard a loud thud on the door, and Astrid picked up her axe and walked towards it. She took a peak outside and dropped the axe and opened it, just in time to catch Thuggory who was weak from the loss of blood and fatigue. She lied him down on the couch along with the others and knelt before himâ€|

"Did you get it?" she asked him worriedly and he smiled at herâ€|

"Have I ever let you down?" he said and handed her the bag, "Here, get them taken care of first." He said and she nodded. Ruffnut eyed him for a bit and looked back at the doorâ€|

"Okay, I'm pretty sure I wasn't hallucinating when I saw Camicazi, where is she?" Ruffnut demanded. He looked at her and sighedâ€|

"I sent her to go to the castle," he said and they kept silent, "There was a fork in the road and wellâ€| she wanted to go and make our way towards there less hassle." He finished and Dagur began to chuckleâ€|

"Youâ€| fell for that?" he said and chuckled loudly, "I bet she'll be celebrating right now that she's a step ahead of Heather," both of them looked quizzically at him. They didn't understand what Dagur was implying and he laughed all the more at them, "Gods, you really are an idiotic bunch." He said and then looked at the doorway where Astrid was already ready with the medicine and was carrying loads of stuff for the wounds. Astrid eyed him confusingly too and set the



plate down and handed Ruffnut and him the mugsâ€¦

"Fell for what Dagur?" she asked him icily and he took a large gulp and looked at her as well as the others. He set the mug down and took out his polished swordâ€¦

"Well, have you ever heard of the Bog's princess?" he asked them and they all looked at each other and noddedâ€¦

"Well of course, only Bogs and the Outcast can compete now since the Uglithugs forfeited a long time ago."

"True," he said nodding, "But what about her whereabouts? Her name?"

"Well, we can't really remember her name back then because all the folks felt like it was bad luck to speak her nameâ€¦"

"Camicaziâ€¦" Thuggory whispered and the three of them stared at him

"What?" Astrid asked, and Thuggory locked eyes with Dagur who was smirking at himâ€¦

"Camicaziâ€¦ that was the princess's name." he finished and Ruffnut and Astrid stared at Dagur who held up his mug to Thuggoryâ€¦

"Bravo warrior, you just solved puzzle of the year." He said and took another swig of the medicine, "Are you all fine now?" he asked them and nodded, "Well, we should start going then, I feel better, pretty sure Ruffnut feels the same way," he stood up and stopped to see Astrid nudge her head towards Thuggory. He stared back at his condition and eyed him top to bottomâ€¦

"Except for you," he said and let out a defeated sigh, "Well, rest up today, we move on tomorrow, and then we find Camicazi," he said

"No," Ruffnut piped up blocking his way and he glared at herâ€¦

"What?" he glared at her too, "You're not going to go after Camicazi to avenge your princess?!" he asked and she held her ground tooâ€¦

"We're finding Tuffnut first!"

"Well you can go on alone," he said, "Chances are, he's already dead." He said and turned away from her. Ruffnut was speechless for a moment and stared off to space as she took in the possibility of her brother indeed being dead. She took in a big gulp of air and stood as still as a statue for a moment before turning slowly to Astrid whose eyes held concern for the remaining twin. Ruffnut's tears flow down her cheeks and she rushed to Astrid who engulfed her in a warm hug as she let Ruffnut continue letting her tears outâ€¦

Thuggory had gone out after realizing on just how long Camicazi have been playing with themâ€¦ all of them. He took an empty bottle and threw it to the wall and grabbed another one until his arm was pulled back by Dagur. He turned and glared at him while Dagur could only

smirk knowingly at him

"Don't worry, your secret's safe with me." He said and Thuggory's glared falters as he heard what had just came out of Dagur's lips

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\*\*So now Dagur let the cat out of the bag! Everyone now knows Camicazi's real identity! What happened to Tuffnut anyway? And how is Heather faring at the sea? What's going on in Fishlegs' side? What's Thuggory's secret and will Camicazi ever reach the castle before the others could get to her? oh and by the way, check out "Always", it's a hiccstrid fic everyone, :3 written by yours truly...\*\*

\*\*All that in the next chapter  
:3\*\*

\*\*Hpnarutardsjedipirate1234\*\*

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## 5. Chapter 5

\*\*Disclaimer: I do not own How to train your dragon or anything near it at all just the story \*\*

\*\*~True Love's Kiss Chapter 5~\*\*

\_.\*\*Family\*\*\_

\* \* \*

><p>"What do you mean?" Thuggory asked Dagur, really wanting to wipe off that smug smirk on his face. He faced him and brought him close to his face, "Who are you?!" Dagur smirked as if he knows he's won

"Only a royal can identify another royal." He whispered and Thuggory's eyes widened in realization and let him go, "Took you long enough." He said as he touched his sore neck, "Now what?" he asked and stared at Ruffnut asleep in Astrid's arms, "Those blondies have different plans I presume." He said as he looked back towards Thuggory

"Why are you here?" Thuggory finally asked, "What could you possibly gain from all these things?" he asked and Dagur laughed

"Simple" he said and leaned in closer, "I'm here for the blood." He said and pulled away. Thuggory stared at him disbelievingly and had taken a look at the sleeping girls

"You're deranged if you think I'm leaving them on their own." He said, "I came here to see Hiccup awake, to save him from the curse"

that fishbone has shown me many things and taught me a lot more than any grown up has ever didâ€¦ so if you're here for the blood, I suggest you look somewhere else." He said and tried to shove past Dagur, who now held a blade against his throatâ€¦

"You're not the boss of me." He replied menacingly at Thuggory, "Go where your heart tells you toâ€¦ but I'm certain it's always, and will be forever with Astrid." He said and took the blade away and sheathed it back in place and let him through. Thuggory went back to the living room, only to find no one waitingâ€¦

"Astrid? Ruffnut?" he asked and looked around then back at Dagur who only shrugged his shouldersâ€¦

"Don't look at me, I was with you the whole time." He replied and polished his sword, "I guess we're left with one choice only then."

"And that is?" Thuggory asked frowning at himâ€¦

"We go after the princess of Bog." Dagur said grinning which made Thuggory have shivers up his spine, but agreed nonetheless. He can only hope that Astrid and Ruffnut knows where they're going and survive the dangers lurking everywhere, "You coming or not?" Dagur asked him, now at the front door, ready to go. Thuggory just went and picked up his weapon and soon followed him out of the house.

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Astrid and Ruffnut silently snuck out of the hut as soon as they were sure Thuggory and Dagur were so into their conversation, no doubt figuring out a way to stop Camicazi. Ruffnut and she proceeded to walk until eventually it started to get dark, and they were forced to make camp. They built a fire and sat on the opposite sides, sharpening their weapons and doing rounds every now and then until both of them sat and decided to talkâ€¦

"Maybe we should have gone with Thuggory and Dagur." Ruffnut admitted softly, "I mean, not that I'm not believing in Thuggory, but the princessâ€¦"

"It doesn't matter which princess wakes the prince up." Astrid cut in, "What matters is that he wakes up, while we find your brother."

"Yeah but-"

"Family's more important Ruffnut, don't ever forget that."

"But the kingdom is at stake here Astrid," Ruffnut argued, "Don't you think that the good of many outweighs the good of one?" that got Astrid. She kept silent for a moment before letting out a sigh towards Ruffnutâ€¦

"I wasn't really thinking about the kingdom when I went on this quest

Ruff," she admitted, "All that mattered to me wasâ€" she looked at the fire and stared at it, "-was that the prince wakes up from his curseâ€" she finished, "When Dagur said that Camicazi was a princess, I wasn't worried because then I knew there was a bigger chance now he'd wake up, then we can go find your brotherâ€"

"But why would \_\*\*you \*\*\_of all people be fine with Camicazi waking \_\*\*him \*\*\_up? She's not our princessâ€"

"I guess my loyalty wasn't entirely to the kingdomâ€" maybe I'm doing this for myself."

"Why Astrid?" Ruffnut pressed on, "Why?" Astrid refused to answer the question she knew too well why. The prince was her ultimate goalâ€" to see him once moreâ€" to hear him talk and smileâ€" she shook the thoughts clear off her head and stared back at Ruffnutâ€"

"It's getting late, let's rest up then confirm our doubts, then go catch up with Dagur and Thuggory later on." Ruffnut seemed hesitant to follow Astrid's advice, but she felt drowsy all the same. Moments later she fell asleep, and Astrid stayed awake to watch for a moment and then put out the fire they made to avoid any attraction of unwanted predators. She lay down next to Ruffnut and slept with her trusted axe right next to herâ€"

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It wasn't like he had decided to go and just disappear. He was just going to turn around and fetch his sister who had gone missing when suddenly there was a smoke that swarmed around him and carried him off somewhere else he didn't know. That was when he realized these were dragons that carried him were a group of smothering smoke breath. They got attracted by his recently sharpened and polished blade which eventually led him to run the other direction and got carried awayâ€" literallyâ€"

He was flown through a series of thorns, but luckily they were already destroyed before he was forced to plunge into the sharp bushes since some of the dragons flew faster than the one he had been on from the start. Their grip on his spear was sharp and he could hardly move, sensing that if something was to interrupt what these dragons were doing, he'd get in big troubleâ€"

Not that he wasn't in one alreadyâ€"

He wondered how the others were until eventually they arrived inside a hot cave filled with smoke and he was roughly thrown off the back of the smothering smoke breath and slammed his back against the hot rocks. He was startled though by the dripping of blood coming from his right shoulder and realized he was absentmindedly slammed through a weapon which was now deeply embedded in the rocks. He stood up slowly and looked around him, seeing the dragons melting the shiny stuff and mixing them deep within the rocksâ€"

There were thousands of them, and eventually he was having trouble finding a suitable weapon if he were to get out of here without being

stopped. He knew for one, thanks to Fishlegs' occasional rants, that they were attracted to shiny things. He didn't think there were many inhabitants in the sleeping island, but he seemed to have underestimated that since the dragons were clearly alive and well. He took a step back when he suddenly heard a low grumbling noiseâ€|

He turned and saw that there were many growling smoke breaths with teeth barred towards him. He gulped and looked around. Clearly after four years, these dragons have become hostile, not used to human company anymore. He wondered if one of them were still accustomed to human company. Suddenly, a large slow smothering smoke breath paved way and landed before him, its mouth open, ready to bite his head off until it let out a huge amount of smokeâ€| along with some bad breathâ€|

"Gods that's disgusting!" Tuffnut muttered as he waved off the smoke around him, "You even smell worse than Ruffnut." He added and looked back at the dragon who now flew away and to the topmost tower of hot rocks and disappeared from sight. As soon as it did, the growling returned and Tuffnut managed to roll out of the way as one of them dashed towards him and snapped their jaws. The others started to follow soon and he was left with no choice but to assume they were indeed very hungry for some raw meatâ€|

"Uh you don't really want to eat meeeeeeee!" he screamed as he fell through one of the tunnels and stumbled out of the cave and looked back up. Not a moment later he started to see some smoke and knew they were going to go after him, so he did what he naturally thought of and took out from its sheath his knife he had forgotten and started to cut carefully a branch from the thorn bushes and cut out the thorns, only to see there was some sap leaking out of itâ€|

He scrunched up his face as he held the sticky substance, but felt some tingling sensation run up his fingers. He stopped for a moment and looked closely. Some saps back home were transparent brown, or others were white, but theseâ€| these were black and thick and sticky. This was no ordinary sap, these were poisonâ€|

Something that might just come in handyâ€|

He clutched the branch tightly and looked around for something to gather the poison in and then realized his empty sheath could work just as well tooâ€| if only he had something to cover it with. But when he realized that the smoke was already at the mouth of the entrance he cursed under his breath and ran for his life, trying to contain the dripping substance into his sheath and keeping a steady foot. He ran through the bushes, avoiding it with ease as he expertly duck and dodged his way throughâ€|

He looked down at his hands and discarded the branch when he saw that one of them had caught up to him. He managed to hit it at its mouth and kind of felt sorry for it but quickly discarded the feeling when he saw more. He covered with his thumb the almost full sheath of poison and now ran with concentrationâ€|

He stopped and hid behind one of the boulders he managed to encounter and eventually fished out his knife once more and cut out a bit of cloth from his shirt and picked a pebble fit in the mouth of his sheath and tied a secure knot around it before using it as a cover and tying the excess cloth around the sheath itself. He then looked

around his surroundings. He didn't notice he had fallen in some type of cove and saw that there was a dark lake in the middle.

He wasn't sure if it was because of the covering the thorns had provided while the prince was asleep, or it was because it was dirty, but nonetheless he didn't want to risk any chances he had left. He went over some fallen branch that was lying around and hacked the rotten bark until it seemed to be able to hold water. He smiled at his work and walked over the lake and got some water out. When he decided to drink some of it he was then knocked off his feet and covered his head and braced for impact

But none came

"Tuffnut!" exclaimed a voice he didn't think he'd hear, "I'm so glad I found you! I've been circling all over the island for quite some time now but still none of the dragons were able to go through the thorn forest since it proved to be poisonous! You see I tried cutting it down but then it started to pour down like some sticky substance which I thought was oil at first, which by the way burned so big-

"Yeah that's great Fishlegs," Tuffnut grunted, "But in case you haven't noticed, you just managed to spill my drink." He stated glumly towards Fishlegs whose eyes darted around and saw the lake

"But there's a lake which you can get more water from," he said pointing, "Besides, it seemed clean enough to me. Where're the others?" he asked eagerly not leaving space for Tuffnut to reply, "Did they go somewhere? Did you guys split up? Did you get lost?"

"Gods," Tuffnut muttered to himself, "Does he never shut up?"

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Astrid and Ruffnut eventually woke up later than they planned and hurried off of their campsite and then started to look for Tuffnut. They kept walking and walking but they've not eaten at all since last night and were starting to feel the effects of the lack of food. Their stomachs grumbled as soon as they reached the foot of a rocky hill. They stopped and dropped their weapons at the side and lay down on the ground facing the sky, which was blocked by the thorny forest

"Well this sucks." Ruffnut said, "I'm so hungry I could eat you then myself" she said and Astrid narrowed her eyes at Ruffnut

"Why don't you eat yourself first then?" she asked and Ruffnut thought for a moment then grinned at Astrid

"Because if I do, then I won't live to enjoy myself for a moment." She replied smiling at Astrid who only rolled her eyes at Ruffnut and

managed to stand up and carry back her axe with ease and walked around. "Where are you going?" Ruffnut asked and Astrid looks back at herâ€|

"I'm going to look for some food, before you decide you'd try and eat me." She replied and started to walk, "Don't worry, I won't go far." She then started to cut down some of the branches and swung her axe at every branch that was either close or very low for her. She kept walking and walking until eventually she found a very high mountain that probably grew higher than the thorn forest. She went back to Ruffnut's sleeping form and shook her awakeâ€|

"Ruff, come on!" she said as she shook her awake but Ruffnut just swatted her hand away, "Ruff come on!"

"What now Astrid?" she managed to mutter, but her eyes remained closed, "If it's about a plan or a strategy-"

"I found a mountain!" she finally said and one of Ruffnut's eyes popped openâ€|

"You found a what?" she asked and Astrid was smiling excitedlyâ€|

"This could be it Ruff," she said, "This could be our vantage point."

Without further ado, both warriors got up and packed up their things leaving no traces behind them. Thuggory and Dagur can go after Camicazi, but with Astrid and Ruffnut, their top priority was Tuffnut and finding out where his location is and how he isâ€|

The mountain top has multiple uses. One, once they reached the top, there was a big possibility that the space above have thrived, and they could get a good deal of edible food. Second, it is at the top, which means they'll be able to view their surroundings and see how far they are from the castle, and look for clues to where Tuffnut might beâ€|

They began to climb up the steep slope of the mountain, almost slipping a few times or so, but they have had training, and they weren't going to give up this easily. They were the knights of rounds, one of the very few privileged warriors that are able to possibly get this far into the forest. But they wouldn't knowâ€|

"If only our dragons were hereâ€|" Ruffnut muttered in between pants as she held onto one of the rocks, "This mountain climbing thing would have been so much easierâ€|" Astrid only took a deep breath and continued climbing. She wouldn't dare waste any breath complaining. She has to finish this and see it throughâ€| she needed to see the prince of Berk one last timeâ€|

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"Why are we slowing down?" Heather asked as she noticed the pace of the boats slow down. The rest of the other ships with them were doing

the same thing as well and Heather was forced to look to Mildew who only shruggedâ€|

"Don't look to me princess; I've never ventured this near to Berk in the last four years." He said and looked to the nearing island of Berk, "But it still is a sight to behold." He said and Heather leaned onto one of the ropesâ€|

"I've never been to Berk," she said

"We know." Mildew said, "Your father would never have allowed you near it once he knew of the curse."

"But you have," she added, completely ignoring him, "What was it like?" she asked, but before he could even answer there was a sudden roar that could have almost burst their eardrums if it weren't for the earmuffs they've worn over the past few days since it was beginning to freeze their ears. Everyone pressed it closely to their ears and squinted their eyes shut. Out of the blue, their boats began to rock left to right wildly that they had to hold fast onto the ropesâ€|

"What is it!?" Heather shouted as the waves began to grow bigger and bigger, "What in Thor's name is happening!?"

"Thunderdrums!" a distant yell had said and harpoons were suddenly released into the air along with a sudden burst of sonic boomsâ€|

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"So let me get this straight, you," Tuffnut said pointing to Fishlegs, "Got your dragon inside the forest of thorns, but left our dragons outside?" he asked as if clearly distraught, "Why the hell didn't you bring along my dragon!?"

"Uh, as far as I'm concerned, Astrid's nadder was definitely angry at being left behind by its master, Thuggory's changewing kept spitting acid, Camicazi's mood dragon was in a bad mood, Dagur's skrill was screeching this painful noises, and your dragonâ€|" he paused and thought for a moment, "Well, I'm only one and they did always say two heads are better than one."

Tuffnut threw his hands up in the air before Fishlegs noticed the discoloration on his handsâ€|

"What's up with your hands?" he asked and Tuffnut stared at his handsâ€|

"Nothing's wrong with my hands."

"Yes there is."

"No there isn't."

"Yes there is, it has black gooey colour and I'm pretty sure your



skin wasn't like that before."

"Oh, that wrong."

"Yeah, that wrong." Fishlegs sighed restraining himself from rolling his eyes, "Are you gonna tell me or not?"

"Are you gonna keep quiet if I do?" Fishlegs kept quiet for a while before sighing in defeat,

"Yeah, I will. Only if they're unnecessary questions."

"Everything's necessary for you."

"No it isn't."

"Yes it is."

"Are we going at this again?"

"If we have to."

"Fine!" Fishlegs said, "I won't say a single thing afterwards!"

"Good. It's poison, from the branches." He replied nonchalantly and started to walk away.

"What?"

"I thought you were gonna shut up."

"Bu-"

"No!"

"It's poison-"

"Shut it."

"It might be-"

"ZIP!" he shouted and Fishlegs shut his mouth, "Good. Now let's get walking. Meatlug lead the way."

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"Ha!" Camicazi yelled as she slashed one of the branches down and panted. It felt like hours, and she still didn't know which way she was going. The forest was thick with thorns and every time she kept pushing forward, she managed to lose sight of the sun. She was going south west of the forest, but as she went deeper the less she saw the sun. There was a cold heavy air around her, and it suffocated her to no end. All that was in her mind was to be the first to finish. She knew she was nearing the castleâ€¦|

Question was, which way was she going next? She kept walking and walking until eventually, she didn't notice a small slope on the ground and started to fall and slip into a pit that was glowing very, very brightâ€|

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"Are you sure that map's reliable?" Dagur had asked Thuggory for the nth time already. Thuggory had to roll his eyes at his impatienceâ€|

"How many times do I have to tell you that this is the very same map that led me to the medicine, the one that saved your life?" he asked and Dagur threw his hands up in the airâ€|

"Okay fine, but I'll keep asking until I'm convinced. Just so you know, you're basing the location of the castle, on a map scribbled by most probably a kid, and the fact that Camicazi and you heard this strange roar and you let her offâ€| where exactly?" he asked and Thuggory shrugged his shouldersâ€|

"I don't know, but I'm pretty sure it was somewhere around he-" and the ground underneath them had begun to crack under their weight and both males came crashing down into a ten feet deep tunnelâ€|

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After hours and hours of climbing, they managed to get to the top of the mountain. Beads of sweat ran through their faces as they panted and dropped to the ground on their stomachs. They discarded some of their armours and regretted why they never thought of thinking about it. They let out a sigh of relief as they lie on their backs and saw the sun for the first time since they got here inside the forestâ€|

"Finally, some lightâ€|" Ruffnut muttered and slowly slipped into the state of unconsciousness, when suddenly Astrid had begun to feel a bit of vibration in the background, until it became clear that it was a flapping of wings. Ruffnut heard it a few moments after Astrid did and snapped awake. Both warriors grabbed their weapons and leaned their backs against each other, anticipating an attackâ€|

Suddenly the fast beating of wings came in view and not long after that was a figure that seemed to look a bit likeâ€|

"Fishlegs?" Astrid asked in confusion and exchanged looks with Ruffnut who shrugged and they stared at Meatlug who was exceptionally a sight for sore eyes. They slumped in relief as they realized it was not an attackâ€|

"Sheez Fish," Ruffnut said and sunk back down to the ground as she

dropped her weapon, "Did you know how many uncertainties we've encountered!?"

"Uh," Fishlegs nervously shifted his gaze from them and scratched the back of his head sheepishly, "I'm really sorry I didn't go in before, but hey, what matters is that I'm here now aren't I?" he asked unsurely towards them. Astrid just dropped her shoulders and offered him a smile. Fishlegs let out a sigh, "Whoo, that went good, right Tuff?" he asked behind him and Tuffnut just gruntedâ€|

"Wait," Ruffnut suddenly turned back to them, "Tuffnut's with you!?" she asked eagerly and Fishlegs nodded. After the confirmation Ruffnut's teeth barred and jumped onto Meatlug causing them to almost fall down, "What is Thor's name were you doing!?" she yelled as she clung onto Meatlug's saddle, and Tuffnut clung onto Fishlegs who gripped onto his dragon. Astrid almost went after but went to pick up the discarded weapons and armour. The trio were gradually losing altitude, and Meatlug can only carry so manyâ€|

"Astridâ€|" Fishlegs stated shakily, "Are you coming or not..!" he exclaimed as Meatlug began to swivel downwards. Astrid peered below the cliff, it was a long way down, and she looked back at Fishlegs, "Uh, Astrid?" he called out, "Where are you going?" he glanced up, and the twins paused and they all look at Astrid. Ruffnut peered into her best friend's eye, and she knew what she was about to doâ€|

"No, Astrid, no don't you dare!" she shouted, and Astrid went back to look over the horizonâ€| the castle. She could see it. She could catch up to Camicazi, prevent her from taking the glory of her princess, and wait for her arrival and then the prince would awaken. She turned back to them and now three pairs of eyes stared at her, "Astrid you don't have to do thisâ€|" Ruffnut tried to tell her, but Astrid's heart was setâ€|

"I'm sorry." She then took off towards the other direction and made her journey alone through the forest of thorns. The three of them then slowly but shakily lost altitude, with Fishlegs forcing Meatlug to go higher, while Tuffnut struggled to keep Ruffnut from fallingâ€|

"Astrid!" she shouted, "Come back here you rat-eating, sludge bucket!" she started to cry as she saw Astrid disappear, "We're a team remember!?" she kept shouting, "Don't do it! Come back down you stupid, stupid girl!" she shouted, "If you don't come back alive I swear to Odin I'll kill you again! You understand me!? STAY ALIVE!"

"Hush now," Tuffnut said gently, cradling his sister, "Shh, she'll be okayâ€| she's Astrid." Ruffnut sobbed into his chest and they went back to the ground. Hoping and praying that somehow, their last moments won't be of torment, and that they'd find their way back to each other. "We're family now," Tuffnut muttered, "And families always find each other."

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><p><strong>And the plot thickens, what's gonna happen now that they are all separated? What's going to happen to Thuggory and Dagur? What about to Camicazi? Will Astrid encounter dangers on her way to the castle? Will Fishlegs and the twins catch up to Astrid? How is the battle against the Thunderdrums going to end? Will Heather get through the sea? Or will she be forced to evacuate?<strong>

**All that in the next chapter**

**Hpnarutardsjedipirate1234**

**11242013**

**Please check out a poll on my profile guys! If you're a fan of that fandom do vote! And check out "Always", a Hiccstrid fic still :3, thanks! It's written by me!**

## 6. Chapter 6

**Disclaimer: I do not own How to train your dragon or anything near it at all!**

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><p><strong>~True Love's Kiss Chapter 6~<strong>

**\_The Lone Mission\_**

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><p>As soon as Astrid took off by herself, and failed to hear Ruffnut's screams after her, she knew she was finally alone. She slid down the mountain, and made use of her axe as an anchor while going down. She secured all the other armours and weapons her and Ruffnut had taken off and used a dagger and her trusty axe. She grunted and was beginning to be slippery as she held onto the rocks. She looked back down and gulped!

She wasn't used to seeing heights without Stormfly underneath her or nearby. She went back to the task at hand and looked for a perfect place to put her foot into, when she suddenly slipped. She got hit by the cliff a few times, before she landed on the narrow plane and almost rolled off once more, had she not stuck her axe just in time. She let out a sigh and slowly heaved herself back on top and leaned against the cliffside. She panted heavily and winced as she touched her shoulder, it was probably dislocated, and she also probably had a few broken ribs, but she could handle it. Astrid braved herself to look over.

Fortunately, due to her unfortunate slip, she wasn't that far down!

Unfortunately, her body hurt like Hell!

Nonetheless, she let out another grunt and kept pushing on!

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"Now what do we do?"

"Shut up!"

"It wasn't me who was holding the map and led us here to die." Dagur stated plainly, "Well, at least tell me you have a torch."

"No," replied Thuggory glumly, but then somehow brightened up, "Thisâ€| this is a tunnelâ€|" Dagur rolled his eyesâ€|

"Yes, thank you for stating the obvious, I did not know that." he replied sarcastically...

"No you don't understand this is a tunnel!" he stated excitedly as if it was supposed to mean something. Dagur fought the urge to take up his sword and swung it at Thuggoryâ€|

"I swear if you don't start to make some sense I am going to cut your head offâ€|"

"Just come on!" he said and began running off the same direction they were headed off to a while ago, with some occasional bumps. Dagur let out a sigh and heaved his sword over his shoulder before calmly walking after himâ€|

"This better be a good idea." He mumbled to himself

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Just as Camicazi was sliding down towards the unknown, she immediately searched her pockets for something to use to hold on. When she finally found a dagger, she didn't waste time pulling it out and stabbing the ground multiple times. As it started to glow brighter by the second, she knew she needed to get stuck fast. She wasn't much of a fan in having her skin burned. Finally, it stuck, and she abruptly stoppedâ€|

She let out a yelp of pain as she felt her limbs being stretched out. She breathed a couple of seconds before looking down and breathed a sigh of relief. She just realized she was only a few inches away from the pit of fireworms and started to inch slowly upwards. She quickly looked around and up. She let out a groan as she realized she was already so far down. She let go with one hand on her dagger and immediately began searching her pockets for another one, when she realized there was nothing in them. She groaned and looked back at her surroundingsâ€|

She began to search for something to hold on to and grabbed a rock

that was stuck on the ground and pulled out her dagger and stuck it onto a higher place. She moved up and began to repeat the processâ€|

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It was cold, and she wasn't feeling at ease at all. She didn't know how long they were going to stay here and wished that her dragon was in there with her, or \_their \_dragon, if he was to hear her say it was hers. She looked around before managing to sit up and placed her hands on her shoulders and began rubbing them up and down. The fire was out, and both Fishlegs and Tuffnut were sleeping. She looked near Fishlegs and could feel herself get jealous as why Meatlug was in there with him. Why couldn't it be Barf and Belch? She sighed and looked up at the skyâ€|

The thorns blocked it out, but she could swear the moon was shining brightly upon Berk. She closed her eyes and began to imagine what Berk would have been like had the people were still awake, and the curse wasn't placed upon it at all. She guessed it would have been a sight to behold. After all, it was said and rumored that Berk had a charming view of sunsets even when it was freezing cold often times. She looked over at their pile of weapons and back to her companions, it wouldn't hurt would it?

She quietly stood up; making sure no noise could be heard. She made her way towards the pile and began to reach out to her own spear. That was when she felt a cool blade against her neck, "What do you think you're doing?" she heard from behind her and let out a sighâ€|

"Going after Astrid." She replied before trying to get her spear less quiet this time, but before she could make contact, another blade blocked her wayâ€|

"We already talked about it Ruff." He stated towards her, and Ruffnut could feel herself slowly explodeâ€|

"And what good is it doing waiting for tomorrow!?" she yelled at him, "Astrid's out there alone and I don't even know where she is! Or even how she is! Aren't you the least bit worried?" she asked her brother, when he didn't reply she rolled her eyes at him before turning back around and grabbed her spear, "I get it, you don't care for her like how I do. I guess that's because you're a guy and she's a girl."

"That doesn't even make sense." He countered

"No, you," she said as she dabbed her finger at his chest, "You don't make sense. We grew up together and you don't feel a bit worried?" she asked in disbelief, "I'm going with or without you guys." She then started to walk away when she felt a hand grab her shoulder gentlyâ€|

"Hold up," Tuffnut muttered and let her go, making his way towards the sleeping Fishlegs, "Wake up bookworm," he tapped and Fishlegs

stirred awake, "We're going now." He stated and looked back up at her sister who was now smirking at him...

"Aw, you do care." She teased and he scowled at her

"Of course I don't, I just think it's troublesome to let you go and mess up the awesomest mission ever." He denied refusing to look at his twin

"You mean most awesome right?" Fishlegs corrected as he was finally standing up and Tuffnut paused

"That's what I said."

"You said awesomest." Fishlegs pointed out

"No you said it."

"Nope," Ruffnut countered, "You said awesomest alright."

"No I didn't."

"Yes you did."

"Why would I even say it, it's not even a word."

"You said it."

"Nu-uh."

"Ye-uh."

"Nu-uh."

"Nu-uh."

"Ye-uh." Tuffnut paused, "Wait, what?"

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As soon as Astrid finally got down from the mountain, she immediately dropped to her knees and fell down on the ground. She was exhausted beyond compare. She could barely move anymore and she could feel her stomach tremble with hunger. She clutched it and lay flat on her back, just stared at the thorny sky. Oh how she longed to see that blue bright sky someday. She wonders if she could ever see it again. Her grip on her axe tightened. It wasn't her life that was depending if she failed on this mission.

Might as well kiss Prince Hiccup goodbye then. But no, she needed to reach him. She quickly rolled over and grunted as she felt her body refuse to move any longer, before she fell back down. She sighed and rolled over again, now lying on her back. Maybe a little sleep wasn't such a bad idea. She then looked up ahead of her

Maybe crawling wasn't such a bad idea

eitherâ€|

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"You know, I'm beginning to get sick of all these darkness."  
Announced Dagger as soon as he felt some rock hit his foot again,  
"Are you sure you know which way we're headed to?" he asked and  
Thuggory nodded, though Dagur didn't see it, "Audio please, I don't  
have night vision."

"Yes." Was the quick replyâ€|

"And you're certain of this becauseâ€|?" he trailed off, waiting for  
Thuggory to answer, when there was no answer he stopped and let out a  
sigh, "I knew it, we're both doomed."

"No we aren't, trust me I know."

"How?"

"I just do!"

"Oh wow, I didn't know you had a sixth sense, does it tell you we're  
already close? Or if we'll see some light any time soon too?"

"Will you please keep quiet!?" hissed Thuggory, "I know what made  
these tunnels, and there is surely another way out!" he shouted and  
soon enough, there was a low grumbling, "Shh." He quickly said and  
Dagur raised his sword, fighting stance readyâ€|

"Way to go Prince Thuggory." Dagur stated sarcastically, "That  
outburst clearly helped."

"Well, you aren't helping much either."

"Okay, fine, I am not helping much." He finally admitted, "But you  
can't blame me, I've been down in the dark many times, but never this  
long. Not to mention I was poisoned and that cut Astrid made on me is  
pretty painful still. I can't use my good hand, and well, frankly I  
feel crappy right now."

"For once," Thuggory stated as he unsheathed his sword as well,  
"You're finally talking some sense. Ready to go berserk?" Dagur  
smirked, even though he knew Thuggory couldn't see himâ€|

"Well, aren't you such a meathead." He stated and there was a burst  
of flames headed their way, "I think the dark was much better." He  
replied as he saw the flame rings and Thuggory noddedâ€|

"Well, let's run as fast as we can then." And they immediately  
continued on their way as they tried to outrun the whispering death  
which was enraged at them trespassing its territory. There was  
another burst of flames and they knew it was going to follow them,  
"What was that technique in training them again?"

"I don't know! Be patient!?" Dagur yelled as he kept running, "We



can't afford that right now!"

"Gah, I hate whispering deaths." Thuggory muttered under his breath as he felt himself getting sweaty and sweaty by the secondâ€|

"You and me both," called out Dagur as he avoided the fire around them, "You and me both."

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As soon as everyone was armed and engaged in a fierce battle between dragons and men, Heather was knocked off her feet and stumbled into the sea. There were yells of her name and they tried to catch up to her, but another loud roar only fastened her fall. She splashed into the water, a salty taste left within her mouth and some in her nose. She quickly huffed some of it out and flapped into the water, looking around, gasping for air.

It was a good thing she knew how to swim. She spun in the water and quickly stared at the island of Berk. It was so close already, and if she can do it, she will. Another thunderdrum sprung up the sea and hovered over them, rocking most of the warriors out of their ships. Heather glanced back at the island and at her fleet. Maybe the dragons didn't understand what they were there for, and if they did, they'd ease their attacks. She tried to get back on the ship, but apparently, it rocked back and forth, causing her to hit the sides with full force. Her grip loosened and she fell back. She grunted and looked back on the islandâ€|

Surely, they won't notice herâ€|

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The sun had finally come out, and only a few rays of sunshine could seep through the thick thorn forest. Tuff, Ruff and Fishlegs had kept on going even though they were finally beginning to feel tired and hungry. Tuffnut was now lamely hacking away the thorns, Ruffnut doing the same, while Fishlegs was having trouble in keeping up with them and staying awake and upright. "Can't we just stop and rest for a while?" Fishlegs pleaded, feeling his body slowly starting to ache, "I mean, we've been up late since last night and now, the sun is so high up. It's probably midday already." Fishlegs added. Tuffnut paused and looked to his sister who was still hacking, but obviously tiredâ€|

"Fish is right," Tuffnut supported, "We must stop Ruffnut."

"No," she stated stubbornly, "We have to go and help Astrid." She persisted. Tuffnut then stopped and dropped his spear to the groundâ€|

"You were always the smart one among us Ruffnut, I'll admit to that,"

he said, "So for now, use your brain and answer me how are we going to help Astrid when we're all tired?" Ruffnut seemed caught off guard by the question and stared at him. She as visibly gasping for air, and her eyelids were barely staying open. Her hands dropped to her sides and her gripped loosened up. She stared back at both of them before biting her lower lipsâ€|

"You're right" she finally relented, "You're right." Fishlegs let out a sigh of relief and didn't mind where he was lying down and immediately fell to the ground and fell asleep. Ruff and Tuff only shook their heads, as soon as Ruffnut reached her brother's side; she pulled her arm back and landed a solid punch on his shoulder. "Since when did you become the smart one?" she asked and Tuffnut only shrugged, "Thanks." She added and Tuffnut scoffed as he proceeded to make a temporary bedâ€|

"Don't get used to it." And he fell asleep. Ruffnut sighed and laid down, beside her brother and looked up, though it was barely seen, she could see the blue sky, and guessed that berk had a charming view of everything around them. It wasn't long before she felt herself begin to drift away from sleep. Astrid was far ahead of them, she only wished Astrid would reach prince Hiccup before Camicazi. And now that she thought about it, she might just actually know Astrid's true missionâ€|

A mission that only she had appointed to herselfâ€|

The reason she wanted so badly to be in the knights of rounds. The real reason she wasn't worried who wakes up the prince, "Who would have thought the great Astrid Hofferson, was actually in love with a cursed prince?" she mumbled to herself, "I will ask her how that happened." She vowed to herself, "A curse needs passion to be created, maybe passion will break it as well." And she finally closed her eyes and fell asleepâ€|

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She stirred awake and felt as if she had been lying for so long already. She quickly lied on her back and stared at the sky. It was already dark. After realizing that, she immediately snapped up, but quickly hissed in pain as she remembered her dislocated shoulder and broken ribs. She grabbed her axe and used it as a support in standing up. She quickly looked around and hack a branch of thorns and removed its poisonous spikes before cutting off some of her shirt away and wrapped it around before striking two stones to create some fireâ€|

As soon as the fire sparked, it almost blew up her face had she not stepped back in time. She quickly grabbed the stick and hovered it over her surroundings, now where was the kingdom headed again? She scowled as she realized she didn't remember which way she was headed. "Odin help me," she muttered to herself, "I think I'm lost." She continued to walk and could have sworn that something was lurking in the shadows. She could feel the slightest vibration in the ground, and could almost hear a soft purring sound. She turned and tried to find its source, if it was another dragon, she wasn't so sure what it

wasâ€|

So far, there was nothing. Suddenly, there seemed to be some slight shift in the surroundings. Astrid followed it and began to make her journey through the thorn forest with her invisible guide. She could still hear the soft purring, and could swear that whatever it was, it was always nearby, it was probably the help Odin had sent, but she didn't know what it was. This guide knew where to go, which paths were safe and big enough for her or a dragon. She looked before her and could still see nothing, but she knew there was somethingâ€|

She suddenly felt a sense of dejavu over herâ€|

\_She roamed and roamed until she didn't notice that she was nearing the palace. She saw something move in the corner of her eye and she whipped her head to see what it was that moved, but saw nothing. She shrugged her shoulders and continued walkingâ€| a bit lost she was in reality. She never travelled to the palace at night. She turned and took another way, but stopped after sometime when she still did not recognize the surroundingsâ€|\_

\_Astrid was really going to get in trouble if her mom wakes up and finds only Ruffnut in bed. She bit her lip and continued walking. Forget about the palace, all she wants is to go home. She kept walking and eventually slipped on a wet rock and splashed on herself. She regained her stance and quickly climbed to the bank and gulped for some air and shiveredâ€| it was freezing cold! She hugged her knees to her chest and rocked her body back and forth, until she heard something move in the bushesâ€|\_

\_She stopped and squinted her eyes in the dark, but it was useless she couldn't see anything, until she saw itâ€| two slits inside huge green pupils, shivering with cold, she managed to get a word out of her freezing lipsâ€|\_

"\_D-d-dr-dra-dragon." She whispered, and it began to charge towards her and she was forced to flee away from the dragon. Back in Outcast Island were a lot of dragons untamed and unused to human companyâ€| so it was safe to assume, neither the people were accustomed to dragons. She ran for her life as the dragon let out a sound not really that loud, she was momentarily confusedâ€| that sound was a bit familiarâ€| she wonders where she heard it beforeâ€|\_

"Night fury," she whispered and looked before her, "The prince's dragon." The steps stop, but the low purring was still there, "You, you know where the castle is don't you?" she asked, it refused to make a noise, nor move to confirm her there was a dragon in her presence. Astrid stepped forward and stretched out her hand, hoping it could touch something, but something immediately knocked her off her feet and blew the light out, she knew she was right. It was the dragon from years ago, "You remembered me." She muttered to herself and stared before her, "And now I'll make sure he wakes up. Thank you." She said, not sure if he was still around, but with new hope and determination, Astrid pushed on and began to take the path laid out before herâ€|

She kept on walking and walking, until eventually, she noticed the surroundings started to get clearer and clearer. The thorn forest was becoming thin, and she looked up and the dark thorny sky became clearer with each star up on the sky. There was a full moon, and

suddenly, it finally appeared out of the blue at the break of dawn. Astrid couldn't believe her eyes and she let out a laugh of disbelief and she hit the groundâ€|

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><p><strong>Will Astrid wake the prince up? Or will her duties come before her? How are the others now? Will they finally manage to catch up with her? Will Dagur and Thuggory escape the dark tunnels of a whispering death? How long will it take for Camicazi to escape the deep hole filled with fireworms? Will the twins and Fishlegs find their way to the castle?<strong>

\*\*\*\*03172014\*\*\*\*

## 7. Chapter 7

**\*\*Disclaimer:** I do not own How to train your dragon or anything near it at allâ€| just the story\*\*

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><p><strong>~True Love's Kiss Chapter 7~<strong>

\_**\*\*Reunion\*\***\_

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><p>After hours of crawling and crawling, Camicazi finally was able to reach up to the top. She let out a sigh of relief and lied on her back as she looked up. She never thought it would be this lonely. What was she thinking? She didn't think she needed anyone that is until now. All the time she was with them, she thought they were annoying and was only a dead weight, but now she realizes she's wrong. This was wrong. No one could survive this expedition, especially when alone. They needed each other, now more than everâ€|<p>

Why oh why did she even care about an alliance with Berk? She didn't need a man in her life. Power is nothing, especially when you have too much of it. Now friends, that's something she never thought of as important, much less companions. But now, she knows that she shouldn't have left. She didn't regret the choice of leaving her home for some adventure, what she regretted was leaving the knights she's been with this whole time.

She stared up and wondered if she could ever see the blue sky again, if she could feel the sun's rays on her skin. She looked around once more, and for a moment, she felt herself drift away to unconsciousness, when a sound brought her back. It was familiar, and she never thought she'd be happy to hear a bickering, growing louder and louder, "Ruffâ€| Tuffâ€|" she whispered and tried to move, but her muscles ached, her legs refused to move any further, and her arms were so stillâ€|

"Why don't I give you one!?" Ruffnut yelled back and tried to punch her brother when he ducked and crashed his body into hers and it was a full out rumble with each other again, and Fishlegs rolled his eyes. They've been cranky for losing sleep. For a moment, Fishlegs

thought they'd be more careful with the whole poisoned thorns and danger lurking everywhere, but it seemed like wherever they were, they were still reckless and careless. He walked behind them and winced and flinched with every blow landed on the otherâ€¦

"Uh, guys, do be careful," he pointed out and looked around, "Poison is everywhere." He added, but they were still fighting until they rolled off some hill, and Fishlegs panicked. Camicazi was still trying to get her limbs to move, but they were too stubborn, and the thought of lying down there was too tempting, when she heard distant thuds as if something big and heavy were moving towards her. She looked up and her eyes widened as soon as she realized the twins were going to tumble right above herâ€¦

They were rolling down, completely out of control. In the split second, Camicazi managed to roll herself to the side and catch on to Ruffnut's braid who almost fell into the fireworm pit, Tuffnut soon followed, only to have Ruffnut grab onto his foot that made him dangle upside down. "I told you to be careful!" Fishlegs shouted after them as soon as he caught up with them and helped Camicazi haul them over to safety, "Cami!" he greeted cheerfully, "It's good to see you!" Camicazi just managed a smileâ€¦

"Good to see you too Fish," she said and rubbed her arm that she used to grab on to Ruffnut, "You too Ruff, Tuff." She said and Ruffnut managed to dust off the dirt before giving her a glare and pinned her down, along with her brotherâ€¦

"Camicazi!" Ruffnut exclaimed, "You have to explain yourself! Is it true that you are Bog's princess?!"

"What!?" Tuffnut and Fishlegs exclaimed together, "Oh, so that's why you pinned her down." Tuffnut added, finally realizingâ€¦

"So why did you pin me down?" Camicazi asked him gruffly and he just shruggedâ€¦

"Didn't want my sister to have all the fun." He replied plainly, "So, are you or are you not the princess of Bog?" he asked and Camicazi let out a defeated sighâ€¦

"You got me." She replied lowly, "It was supposed to be just a simple race, don't worry I'll let Heather have Hiccup." She said and Ruffnut got off her, so did Tuffnutâ€¦

"It doesn't matter who wakes the prince up," Ruffnut said and turned away and started to walk, "What matters is we find the rest and get the prince to wake up. I'm starting to get sick of this place." She then started to lead the way, with Fishlegs following her after Tuffnut hauled Camicazi up Meatlugâ€¦

"Where's Astrid? Thuggory and Dagur?" she asked and Tuffnut sighedâ€¦

"They got separated, we got separated. So basically what turned out to be a simple mission of waking up the prince has sent us on a wild goose chase in finding each other and who gets to the sleeping prince first." He replied plainly and got on behind Camicazi, "You're the first one we've found after being broken to smaller groups." He stated plainly and lied down, "Ah, finally a break from all that

walking-OW!" he yelped and clutched his nose, "Oh I'm hurt! I'm very much hurt!" he glared at his sister who now took his place behind Camicazi, "What was that for?!"

"I wasn't sure a simple request would get through your thick skull." She stated plainly and grinned at her brother, "Have fun walking." Tuffnut let out a huff and walked beside Fishlegs, who seemed to not be botheredâ€|

"You seem happy." He said, "Aren't you supposed to be sad or something?"

"What?" Fishlegs asked in surprise, "Oh, yes, I am sad, but I'm still clinging onto a hope that we'll surviveâ€| even if the chances of surviving are dwindling down to single-digits."

"Wait," Ruffnut suddenly piped up, "Didn't Princess Heather take boats to go here to Berk? She probably arrived in the docks already."

"Even by sea, getting to this island is dangerous." Fishlegs pointed out, "Thunderdrums and Scauldrons have grown territorial, not to mention the lack of affection from their masters can prove troublesome with a dragon." He then crouched down to avoid a low hanging thorn branch, "So pretty much the safest way to travel is by air."

"So why didn't King Alvin let her travel by air?" asked Tuffnutâ€|

"Simple really," Camicazi butted in, "He wanted to know if we can make it through the forest, so that when Heather finally arrives and we go back to her alive, we can pave a safe way for her to travel to and meet the prince."

"Wow, that is smart." Tuffnut commented.

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It had been a while when they found the other end of the tunnel. And of course, once they were out of the hole, the whispering death stopped and blew one last fire at them before turning back. Both Thuggory and Dagur heaved a sigh of relief and immediately wiped away some sweat from their foreheads and lied down on their backs. Whispering deaths were very territorial, and it was worse when you're up against a young one. Their spikes were out of control, and eventually, it could be more dangerous than adult whispering deathsâ€|

What's worse, is every one hundred years, one dragon egg laid by a whispering death can become a screaming death. "Remind me again to never get into a tunnel especially when its underground." Dagur stated and Thuggory nodded before rolling over and getting up, noticing his surroundingsâ€|

"Does the thorn forest seem a bitâ€¦ thin for you?" asked Thuggory and Dagur looked around and shruggedâ€¦

"I don't knowâ€¦ I mean, we seemed to be pretty much stuck inside that tunnel for quite some time, maybe your mind's playing tricks on you."

"It justâ€¦ it seems brighter than the last time I rememberâ€¦" he trailed off and shook his head, "You're right, maybe I've been in the tunnel far too long."

"Of course I'm right," he retorted, "I was with you the whole time." He then rolled over and got up on his feet as well, "Let's go."

"Where?"

"I dunno. Over there?" he gestured as he pointed down towards, what seemed like a pathway, big enough for a dragon to walk through, "Seems like a pretty obvious way don't you think?" he asked and Thuggory looked skepticalâ€¦

"I don't knowâ€¦ last time I went through an obvious path, thorns sprouted up behind me." He stated but sighed anyway, "Let's go anyway." He added and they both walked on the path, unaware of a pair of green curious eyes following their every move. Just as they were about to make a left turn, something grunted towards the right, and they both stopped and turned around. Something moved, as if something was making its way towards the other side. Both princes didn't know whether to follow or not, but their feet followed it on their own accordâ€¦

They walked through the path and eventually the sounds stopped, but both pair of eyes widened as they saw a lump of body on the ground, "Astrid!" Thuggory exclaimed as both he and Dagur dropped on the ground beside her and checked if she was still breathing. She stirred as she heard her name and managed to crack one eye open, "Thank gods you're okay!" he said and hugged her. She managed to nod and got out of his hold rather weakly, as she was still sleepyâ€¦

"Five more minutesâ€¦" she mumbled and drifted back off to sleep. Thuggory leaned back and let out a sigh of relief and stared at Dagur, who was looking up with aweâ€¦

"Dagur, what's up?" he asked curious and Dagur just pointed up. Thuggory got up and stood beside him before looking up and his jaw dropped as well as he stared at a balcony...

The castleâ€¦ they finally found the castle.

They failed to see a dragon, hidden in the shadows, creep up near them, hoping they'd climb up and wake up his master. It's been four long years, and he missed him so much. During the years and the infiltrations, they didn't know they were guarded by the villagers dragons. He didn't want anything bad to happen to his master while he slept, but he knew this girl, and she got this far without running into trouble. She was tired, and he thought it'd be best if he granted her access to the safest pathâ€¦

She was the first to arrive, and for once he felt at ease because he

knows, this girlâ€¦|

She was his salvationâ€¦|

The same goes for the kingdom.

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She woke up, but everything was different. Something was different, and she didn't know what. She felt some rustlings below her, and she looked down. She wasn't wearing her armour, she was wearing something white. It hugged her body, and it flowed smoothly as she moved. It was a simple dress, and her hair was neatly braided. Everything was so bright, and the forest was alive and beautiful. She looked around for a weapon, her axe most specifically, but there was nothingâ€¦|

She felt vulnerable, yet safe at the same time. She was walking when she heard a tune, not too far away. Someone was humming, and it seemed familiar, as if she heard it from a dream. She walked through the trees, the leaves fluttering around her quietly. It was probably autumn already, seeing as there were more falling brown leaves. She saw him, up ahead, his back turned to her and he seemed to be spinning the spinning wheel as he hummed, "Excuse meâ€¦|" she called out and he stopped and looked at her with his emerald eyes. Her voice got caught in her throatâ€¦|

"I know you," he piped up smiling at her, "I've walked with you once upon a dream." He stated and approached her excitedly, "That look in your eyes," he whispered as he neared her, she backed up slowly, "It's so familiarâ€¦|"

"I think you have the wrong person." She said and started to walk away when he grabbed her wrist gentlyâ€¦|

"I know it's true." He said and turned her to him, "That visions are seldom all they seem." She wasn't going to lie, he made her nervous, and the fact that he did seem familiar made it worse for her. His auburn hair was a bit ruffled, as if he had just woken up, and he wore a white puffy shirt and black pants. His emerald eyes looking into her sapphire ones. He cupped a hand at the back of her head, touching her golden locksâ€¦|

"You know me?" she asked, "You've seen me?" there was a flutter in her stomach as he looked at her, "Then do you know what I'll do?"

"Yes, 'cause if I know you, I'll know what you'll do," he whispered back, drawing her closer, "You'll love me at once, the way you did once upon a dream." He answered and slowly closed the gap between them. She felt her eyes flutter close before she felt as if someone was calling herâ€¦|

\_Astrid!\_

There was no kiss, she felt as if her back was stiff, and there was



no gentle touch, but just a cold breeze.

"Astrid!" Ruffnut yelled as she finally landed right next to her. Astrid snapped wide awake and looked around her. She was in her armour, and her head throbbed by the lack of energy. She was glad Ruffnut was there, but it was such a tight hug, and Astrid could barely breatheâ€|

"Ruffâ€|can'tâ€| breatheâ€|" she wheezed and Ruffnut immediately let her go and slapped her cheek, "What in Thor's name did you do that for!?" she demanded as she touched her stinging cheek. Ruffnut just huffed and stomped away from her. She let out a sigh and approached the other blonde, "I'm sorry." She said, "I shouldn't have run away from you guys."

"It's okay." Said Ruffnut, "I just can't believe you found the castle first." She said and gestured to the others who were now cooking something, "Thuggory told me that he and Dagur found you lying unconscious."

"Yeah, I momentarily remembered them." Astrid said and leaned back on the castle wall, "Should we head back or what?" she askedâ€|

"Or what." Camicazi replied as she walked over to them, with a bandage wrapped around her arm to her shoulder. She sat down beside Astrid and sighed, "I'm sorry for all the secrecy." She admitted and Astrid smiled for a moment before throwing a punch on the uninjured arm, "What's with you and violence?!" Camicazi hissed as she rubbed her shoulder and Astrid scoffedâ€|

"It's not violence," she said, "It's communication." She then stood up and looked up as the others were finally nearing them, "Boys, you go and search the area for any doors," she then stared at Ruffnut, "Ruff, you come with me going up."

"And how are you supposed to go up?" asked Fishlegs and Astrid stared at him, "Oh, right." They all turned to Meatlug, who was the only dragon at their disposal. Camicazi decided to stay behind to watch over their belongings, that and because she was far too tired to move. The others divided into two groups, Tuffnut and Thuggory, while Dagur was with Fishlegs. Ruffnut and Astrid mounted up on Meatlug, and she began to fly up gentlyâ€|

"You love him don't you?" Ruffnut asked, as soon as they were a good deal high up above. Astrid stiffened at the question. She didn't know she was obvious, until of course this quest had started. She had been selfish, when she shouldn't. She had no right. "Why are you even doing this Astrid? When you know you're going to get hurt?"

"I'll do anythingâ€|" she replied softly, "Anything to see him up and about again." She finally replied and Ruffnut stared at her. "What?" she snapped at the other blondeâ€|

"Nothing." Ruffnut said and sighed, "How do you feel about him being a prize for some rich kids?"

"What?"

"I mean, this whole quest is because of them. And they don't have the dedication you do. You're more deserving of him than they are with

him. I mean, I don't know why Heather does all this, but I do know Camicazi does not want to get married, and she's giving up."

"Maybe Heather likes Hiccup."

"Maybeâ€¦ but not as true as yours."

"What's that supposed to mean?" Astrid sighed as they were nearing the top, "Look Ruff, they'd both have to be of royalty. She's perfect for him. What do I have to offer to him?"

"I may sound cheesy with this," Ruff said and jumped over to the balcony as Meatlug finally reached it and pulled Astrid along with her, "Your heart is all you can offer. Don't worry though," Ruffnut reassured her and winked, "Your secret's safe with me." Astrid smiled and engulfed her friend with a hug. "Alright, you go look inside, I'll be here with Meatlug." She said and pushed Astrid inside, "Have fun with the sleeping beauty." Astrid just rolled her eyes and walked into the room.

She looked back and Ruffnut was already popping in her mouth some of the rations they had left. Astrid turned back and stared at the room. It was huge. She looked around and saw a desk, filled with papers and charcoal pencils. She scanned the drawings of sceneries, sunsets and even the starry skies. She also saw a drawing of an island, which was probably Berk in all its glory, before the curse was enacted. She took a step back and there was something behind her. She turned and saw a spinning wheel, and suddenly, flashes of the dream she had came to herâ€¦

She stumbled back, but regained her balance as a wave of pain throbbed in her head. She looked to the bed and her heartbeat was racing. She looked behind her and Ruffnut was still not paying any attention to her. She approached the bed, willing herself to not shake as she moved the curtains away to let some light inâ€¦

There he was, sleeping like a baby. She gulped, he looked familiar, but no, he couldn't be the one in the dreamâ€¦

A dream was a dream and that was all there was to itâ€¦

\_That visions are seldom all they seemâ€¦ \_

That was what he said, but what did that even mean? She sat down beside him and took a hold of his wrists gently. She pressed her fingers on the inside of the wrist and felt a familiar rhythm going through the body. He was aliveâ€¦ asleep, but alive. Maybe a kiss didn't have to happen to wake him up. She nudged him gently, "Hi-Prince Hiccup?" she asked gently, but his eyes were sealed shut. She tried again, a bit harder than before, but no movement. She sighed and knelt down beside his bed, taking a hold of his hands, "You're going to wake up." She whispered, "You're going to have to wake upâ€¦ because if you don'tâ€¦" she gulped and shook her head, "No, you're waking upâ€¦ I know it." She kissed his knuckles and laid it gently on his side before turning around and saw Ruffnut staring at her in a bored mannerâ€¦

"Can we get out of this place already?" Ruffnut whined and Astrid laughed for a moment and nodded as they mounted on Meatlug and they flew awayâ€¦

Back at the room, with the sleeping prince, his hand twitched for a moment before going still once againâ€¦

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><p><strong>And so that's that! What happened to Heather by the way? Hm?<strong>

\*\*See ya next time! :D\*\*

\*\*05222014\*\*

## 8. Chapter 8

\*\*Disclaimer: I do not own How to train your dragon or anything near it at allâ€¦ \*\*

\* \* \*

><p><strong>~True Love's Kiss Chapter 8~<strong>

\*\*\_Broken\_\*\*

\* \* \*

><p>He snorted as soon as they all went their separate ways, except for the blonde Viking that was too wounded to do anything. He slowly turned around, expertly dodging the thorns. Their skin was impenetrable, except maybe around the wings, neck, underside and tails. Speaking of which, he swung his tail in front of him and crooned. Things would have been so much easier if they didn't attack immediately. He could still remember their dying screams, the smell of their blood, their scared looks. He shook his head and kept walking until he was a good deal away from them and opened his mouthâ€¦<p>

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Everyone was still occupied in battling the Thunderdrums, and it became worse when the Scauldrons decided to help. Heather kicked and swam through the dragon infested waters, and just wondered how many more dragons did Berk has in store for them. In the water, there was a quick getaway, but she worried about her knights. There was a distant roar, and she looked up only to see a dragon coming its way to her, when there were multiple spikes that flew towards it, making it step back. Heather looked up and brightened up, "Stormfly!" she exclaimed and quickly the dragon tried to pick her up from the sea, when a Scauldron blocked its way and now they were both engaged in a dragon fight.

Heather decided it was best for her to swim faster, now that the shores were growing near. She kept on swimming, when there was a loud echo of roar that came from within the island covered in thorns. All the dragons stopped, and so did the men. What could it have been that

made them all stop? The dragons retreated, and a Thunderdrum appeared right in front of her. It was obvious that this dragon was old, and his blue skin had shone out. Something was different from him, as if he had an authority in these territories. He dove back down and Heather soon found herself on top of the Thunderdrum. The dragon turned and let out another roar, and soon enough, tails of some Thunderdrums attached itself onto the ships and reeled them forwardâ€|

Heather sighed in relief as she realized it was over. She wondered why, she looked around and soon enough, the dragons she had recognized flew into the Thorn forest, ignoring the things poking their undersides as they crashed into the island. Heather soon stopped by near the docks and the Thunderdrum flew away, so did the others as soon as they reached the docks. One by one, each crew and soldier got off their almost wrecked ships.

"Princess!" Astrid exclaimed as soon as she saw the familiar royal. When they saw their dragons crashed into the forest they immediately ran to greet them, and Astrid wasted no time in retrieving the princess. They finally know where the prince is, and it won't be long, they need to wake him up now. She once offered Camicazi when they were all busy with their dragons as to why won't she just go up there and kiss him. She said, she never really wanted the prince, she just liked the idea of an adventure. She quickly hopped off her dragon and Heather engulfed her in a hugâ€|

"Astrid!" she gasped and took in the appearance of her knight, "You look awful!"

"You should see the others." She said and winced as Heather touched a broken rib, "But I have good news," she quickly reported, "We found the castle, and the prince."

"Well, what are you waiting for then?" asked Mildew as he came up behind them, "Go get him your majesty!" Heather nodded and climbed after Astrid who was now atop Stormfly. As they flew lower towards the forest, the ground began to shake and they stopped flying and the thorns seemed to be turning to dusts! Astrid's eyes widened, this never happened before, could it be? What could have possibly be different from before? She looked behind her and realized, Heather was the one different. She nudged her dragon gently as soon as the shaking stopped, to fly low for now and they didâ€|

The sun seemed to grow brighter upon Berk, and the village was soon within sight. One by one, the doors opened and out came the villagers they once saw asleep. They looked around in shock at the mess left during the quests, and they saw the deadly nadder that approached and flew over them, "The princeâ€|"

"The saviourâ€|"

"The curse is brokenâ€|"

"Astrid," Heather asked in wonder as she listened to the whispers, "What's happening?" Astrid looked below and smiled at the princessâ€|

"I believe we may have just succeeded."

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He remembered falling asleep as soon as he had downed another mug full of mead. He looked to his right and sighed as soon as he saw Gobber still sound asleep, his mug attached to his arm. But he looked different, as if he seemed older. He sat up straight and felt a crack on his back, "Oh, Gobberâ€" he called out and the blacksmith popped one lazy eye openâ€"

"What's the matter Stoick?" he asked and let out a yawn, "Is the boy back yet from his flight with Toothless? I still need to go over that saddle plans of hisâ€" I can't quite seem to get it." He mumbled as he tapped his helmet into place and looked at Stoick, "What? What is it?"

"What day is it Gobber?" he asked and Gobber shruggedâ€"

"I don't know," Gobber looked around and saw the sun shining, "Well, I'm betting it's morning already. You would have thought that curse finally came upon Berk now didn't youâ€" Gobber stared at Stoick, "Well, I didn't know you had white hair already. You look older."

"So do you." He said and got up and went up the staircase. He needed to go up and see if his son was still asleep, know if his son had grown older or what. He climbed up the staircases and for the first time, felt as if age has finally caught up with him. Why were their stairs so long?

On the other hand, Astrid and Heather already reached the castle, Heather stared at the knights she had formed and assessed their conditions. "Well," she started as she looked at Camicazi, "Astrid has filled me in on the events. I'm surprised you haven't kissed him yet to try." She said and Camicazi waved it offâ€"

"Please, do you really see me as someone who'd go for a guy?" she asked and Heather shruggedâ€"

"I had suspicions."

"Anyway, I come from Bogs. And we're known as a kingdom where females dominate the males, and we'd rather not marry." She explained, "And if we do, the males are our underdogs." She then gestured to Astrid, "So go on, ride on Stormfly and go kiss your prince." She said to Heather who nodded and mounted behind Astridâ€"

"Do you want me to get off?" asked Astrid and Heather noddedâ€"

"Going alone would be pretty nice. Give me five minutes from when Stormfly returns then go up and see how we're doing."

"Alright." Astrid replied and jumped off and sent Stormfly up to the tower. A few moments later, Camicazi and Ruffnut were now behind herâ€"

"You know I could have been talking to you both." Said Camicazi and Astrid stared at her for a momentâ€|

"Talking to us both? About what?"

"About the kiss idiot." Ruffnut said, "It's obvious already that-" Astrid shut Ruffnut up and she rolled into her brother who tried to hit her, only to have her hit him first and another fight ensued. For a moment they all stood there watching the twins, guessing who'd emerge victorious, when it ended up with the same result. Ruffnut.

"She's right you know." Camicazi finally said, "All that dedication, that drive. You've got to be a real martyr for your kingdom, risking so much just for them. I don't believe it for a second that glory is all you want from this questâ€|" Astrid gave her a glare, "I'm not sure glory is the main reason or part of it at all."

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><p>Heather finally reached the balcony. She dismounted Stormfly and sent her back down below. She crept in the room and looked around. It was filled with drawings, and amazing ones at that. But most of the time, it was filled with drawings of sceneries, and there was a work table, and near it was a spinning wheel. She saw the bed, and stopped. She breathed in and out, this was it. To prove to her father that she is not the little girl he thinks she is. To show everyone that she has some use. She approached it and saw a sleeping boy, she sat by the edge of the bed and crept closer. She saw his peaceful face as he slept, she leaned down and closed the gap between themâ€|<p>

Hiccup's eyes snapped open and he bolted awake and pushed the person off him, "What do you think you're doing?" he asked as he stared at the girl in front of him. Just as she was about to answer, the door burst open and in came his father, "Dad!" he exclaimed and Stoick stopped in his tracks, "Dad, what is it?"

"Hi-Hiccup?" he asked as he stared in awe at his son. Sure he was still a bit scrawny, but it was clear he had grown, in his sleep. He looked to the girl, "How long has it been?"

"It's been four years your highness." She answered and a familiar flapping of wings finally made its way to her ears. She stared towards the balcony and saw Astrid hop onto the balcony, "Astrid!" she exclaimed and Astrid looked at her, and the king and now to the awoken prince. She stopped in her tracks, maybe she wasn't supposed to be up here. But the princess said five minutes, and she did count. She took a step back, attempting to climb back on her dragon, if only to get away from the presence of royal bloodsâ€|

"I should probably go back now," she announced and Heather nodded at her eagerly, "Any message your highness?" she asked to no one in particular and Heather looked to the kingâ€|

"Send word to every kingdom," he said as he helped his son up, "The curse is finally broken." Hiccup only cradled his head, still trying to get a hold of the information. Four years. He's been asleep for four years! How could this have happened? He stared at the retreating

dragon, and wondered who it was. Her voice seemed familiar. He stared at the girl that kissed him on his lipsâ€|

"Who are you?" he asked as he shakily stood up. His feet felt wobbly, probably because it wasn't put to use in a long timeâ€|

"You mean, you don't remember me?" she asked and he shook his headâ€|

"Should I know you?" he asked, still quite shocked and she let out a sighâ€|

"I guess not," she said and stared at the king and prince, "But I'm princess Heather, I've met you once. In Outcast Island."

"Alvin's daughter?" he asked and stared at her, "Iâ€| I think I do remember you." His eyes widened as he remembered something, "Dad, does this meanâ€|"

"What else could you ask for Hiccup?" asked Stoick as he beamed up at his son, "She saved you!" How could his father not see it? He could barely remember who the princess of Outcast was, and sure he was thankful, but he just didn't feel the connection. To top it off, he didn't think he'd be ready. And where was Toothless, "But don't worry, we'll wait a couple of years. At the age of twenty, the wedding should be ready right?" he asked at Heather who only nodded happily, "I'll leave you two then." Once his father left, Hiccup felt a huge tension of awkwardnessâ€|

"Soâ€| four years huh?" he asked, just to strike up a conversation, "How were you guys then?"

"You have to admit Hiccup," said Heather, "That alliance deal that your father gave us royals sent us all on an undeclared competition of who gets to you first." She then sat down beside him, "The Uglithugs tried, but they failed. Princess Tantrum demanded to exhaust all brave souls in their kingdom to venture into Berk, but eventually, they ran out of it and officially gave up. Then of course, the Meatheads refuse to join, and so did the Berserkers, soâ€|"

"The Bog Burglars and the Outcast." Hiccup then sighed, "So you got here first before the Bogs?"

"No she didn't." someone else said and they saw Camicazi, not that Hiccup recognized her, "I got here first. But as you can seeâ€|" she gestured to her bandages, "I've got pretty beat up, and well, I don't like the idea of being tied to a man." She replied grinning and Hiccup rolled his eyesâ€|

"Don't all of you hate the idea of being tied to a man?" he asked dryly and stood up, "So how did you guys end up together?"

"Not just us though." Said Heather and looked to Camicazi, "Where's the other two?"

"Other two?" Hiccup asked nervously and stared at the third party, "What other two?"

"Hold up," Camicazi said, ignoring him completely, "Dagur, Thuggory

come up here!" she yelled and Hiccup was tempted to go over there and take a look himself, but it didn't take long as they both flew up as fast as they could and jumped on the balcony themselves. "Where are the others?" she asked them and Thuggory answered herâ€|

"They went with Astrid back to Outcast island." He then stared at Hiccup, "I didn't know I'd be so happy to finally see you awake." He said and pulled Hiccup into a hug, "Man, I should sleep more often, you're practically taller than me now!" he exclaimed and Hiccup chuckled nervouslyâ€|

"I hate to break it to you, butâ€| your names are kind of fuzzy." He muttered sheepishly, "Perhaps, re-introductions would be nice." He suggested and Heather quickly nodded. Hiccup offered her a smile, "Okay, you first." He said to Heatherâ€|

"Okay, well, I'm Heather, and I'm the princess of the Outcasts." She said, "I would introduce my knights as well, but, they aren't here."

"Okay, me next," said the other girl, "I'm Camicazi, and I'm from Bog Burglars. And you know what they say about Bogs, we're good at everything else as we are at burglary."

"Real nice information princess," Dagur sneered and walked up to Hiccup, "I'm Dagur, and I'm pretty much the one that made your life hell back when you were younger whenever we came to visit." He said and Hiccup nodded at himâ€|

"I think I do remember your tormentsâ€|" he then turned to the last one, "And you are?"

"Thuggory, heir to the Meathead clan." He introduced and shook hands with him, "Now that introductions are out of the way, or re-introductions, when's the wedding?" he asked and Hiccup scratched the back of his neck nervouslyâ€|

"Dad said we have two years to plan it." He answered and stared nervously over his fiancÃ©. He slept at fourteen years old, and now, he was eighteen. This was a lot to take in, and for all he knows, they think he's childish or something. It wasn't his fault he missed four years of growing up. "So what happened to you guys over the last four years?" and they all started to talk at onceâ€|

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As soon as she had her orders, she and the others decided to fly back to Outcast Island to deliver the glorious news to their king. During their stay at Berk, it was just completely different. It was as if there was something about the forest that spooked their dragons. And not only their dragons, but them as well. They have ventured into lots of dark places, but never had they gotten in a place where their dragons weren't around them. There was no light and no way of telling how many days they have been there.



It was good to feel the wind on their faces, the sun's rays touching their skin. Even most of them had to admit that they've never looked paler than when they got out of the place. The feeling of a second heartbeat right below them was just comforting. Astrid patted Stormfly's side and she squawked in appreciation, "It's good to have you around again girl." She said and hugged her dragon from behindâ€¦|

Fishlegs was still pretty much the same since he managed to get Meatlug into the forest. But still, he was doting on his dragon and was gently caressing her head, "Oh poor baby, you had to do all those things on your own. But I'm very much proud of you girl." He cooed and Meatlug's eyes widened as saucers as she practically enjoyed the sweetness of her rider, "Yes, you are one brave dragon, oh yes you are."

Ruffnut and Tuffnut had to resist rolling their eyes as they sat on top of their dragon, "Does he really have to do that now?" Tuffnut complained as he stared at the lovey dovey faces of both Fishlegs and Meatlug, "His dragon had practically been with him all the time!"

"I know right," Ruffnut said, "I'm actually pretty surprised you weren't so jumpy back then."

"What do you mean jumpy?" Tuffnut asked, "I wasn't the one that almost died of poison."

"I mean I just realized," she said, "You practically survived in the dark for Thor knows how long! I thought you were scared of it!"

"Hey!" Tuffnut reacted quickly, "That dark place out there spooked the hell out of me! I mean, it didn't, uh, wait, let me just get my thoughts straight." He said, all his thoughts jumbling back together and Ruffnut smirkedâ€¦|

"Hey Tuffnut," she called and he faced her, only to have her fist meet his face, "Welcome back to the light!" Tuffnut clutched his nose and began to jump at his sister, only to have both their dragons toss them into the air. Both were screaming as they were high up on the sky and were now plummeting to the waters below, but just in time for their dragon to catch them, they both sighed in relief, "Are you thinking what I'm thinking?" Ruff asked her brotherâ€¦|

"I gave up thinking a long time ago." Tuffnut said, "But it seems to be starting." He stared at his twin, "Let's do it again!"

Astrid just chuckled and rolled her eyes at them. Yep, it was definitely nice to be back into the light. Soon enough, the Outcast Island finally came into view, they picked up their pace and immediately the horns of the kingdom blew as soon as the watchers caught sight of their dragons and the riders atop them. King Alvin had to rush out of his room just in time to see his daughter's knights land, "You're back!" he yelled grinning from ear to ear, "Then this means that my girl, my princess had awaken the prince aye?!" he asked excitedly and they all bowed to himâ€¦|

"Yes your highness," Astrid replied as she kneeled in front of him, "The curse is broken, and King Stoick himself wanted to send word out to every kingdom." She said and Alvin nodded and turned to

Savageâ€|

"Savage!"

"Yes your highness!?" he quickly repliedâ€|

"Get me my dragon," he then turned to his room to prepare, "We go to Berk first thing in the morning." He then paused, "Oh, and send out word that the curse is finally broken." He then turned to the knights and gestured to the kitchen, "Please, you look absolutely horrible from your journey, take rest, fill yourselves up, you've earned it." And with that the doors closed and they all rejoiced. As soon as they all sat down, Astrid had felt all her hunger and tiredness disappear from her systemâ€|

Seeing Hiccup, the prince awake was a reward enough for her, "Astrid," called out Ruffnut as she looked over her friend, "Aren't you even the least bit hungry? It's been days or probably weeks since we had real food." She commented and tore on the chicken on her plate with her canines and munched on them greedily. Astrid suddenly remembered her hunger and stared at the food on her plate and began eating. The two boys, Fishlegs and Tuffnut remained eating. Ruffnut on the other hand was still staringâ€|

"You're creeping me out." Stated Astrid and Ruffnut resumed eating, but still stared at her. Astrid chose to ignore this anywayâ€|

"I was really rooting for you." She finally said and Astrid stared at her friendâ€|

"Rooting for me?" she asked and Ruff nodded, "For what?"

"To marry the prince."

"Who's marrying the prince?" asked Tuffnut suddenly in between bites, chunks of food flying out of his mouthâ€|

"Princess Heather, that's who." Fishlegs replied, "Although Camicazi did get to Berk before Heather, I highly doubt that she can take care or even become part of a marriage." He announced, "Based on the past years of living with both of them, I have concluded that Heather is a more suitable partner for a prince, than Camicazi."

"That's great and all, but I wasn't asking you."

Later that night, they all went to their separate bath houses and Astrid still wondered if there was a possibility she could have woken the prince up. It was just impossible, besides, Heather's kiss woke him up. It was just not possible. Not for anyone like her. They went to their rooms, and Astrid had put on a loose shirt over her body, which fell to the middle of her thighs. She wasn't one for night gowns, so this was good enough. She lied down on the bed, minding her wounds.

As soon as they were done with their meal, they were taken to the infirmary to have their wounds, bruises and fractures taken care of. Ruffnut took up most of the time since she was the one almost died of poisoning. Tuffnut had taken half the time to remove the poison from his skin. Fishlegs took no time at all since he barely had wounds on himself. While, she, she just had to be bandaged up and rest. Her

mind replayed that dream she had, it just seemed so real, but now she knew it was just her imagination.

She wanted to be with him right now, make sure he'd wake up in the morning and the curse wouldn't act up again. But she knew he was in good hands now, Heather could take care of him, and she was of his stature. She turned and looked out the window, seeing the starry skies for the first time after Berk's curse was broken. She seemed relieved that she had been part of it all. And even when she could turn back time, she'd still go on with the quest, over and over againâ€|

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Hiccup had gotten tired after spending most of his time catching up with his peers. Not to mention his father's enthusiasm about planning the wedding as soon as King Alvin had arrived. He also was interested who was within the knights of rounds that his four royal friends spoke highly of, well maybe just three, considering Dagur spoke about them as huge headaches. But right now, he was just looking for one thing. He should have been the first thing that greeted him, so why wasn't he around yet?

Hiccup looked out to his balcony, hoping to see his best friend flying outside it beckoning him to fly out with him. Hiccup strode over to his balcony and looked up, "Toothless where are you, bud?" he whispered to the skies and looked down. He could almost swear he saw something move through the shadows, but what was it? And just like that, he heard a flapping of wings and his ears perked up a bit, and looked up only to see his one of a kind cousin, dangling at the horns of his dragon, "Hey there cousin." Greeted Hiccup amusingly and Snotlout just scowled at himâ€|

"Just because you woke up with a fiancÃ© doesn't mean I won't try and woo her." He mused and tried to get back on his dragon again, when he was started to be flung back and forth from his neck. Snotlout was yelping, while Hiccup was only laughing at his cousin's suffering, "Alright! Please, just let him to get me on his back again!" he pleaded and Hiccup went back inside his room to go and find for some dragon nip. He soon went out and outstretched his hand for the monstrous nightmareâ€|

"Here you go boy," Hiccup said gently as he backed out slowly, "That's right, just land down and drop my cousinâ€|" soon enough, he scratched the chin underneath, which made Hookfang drop his cousin from his mouth. Hiccup didn't really want to know what had happened or how his cousin got there. Snotlout soon rolled to the floor near Hiccup, covered in dragon drool, which made both of them cringed in disgust, "You do know they don't wash out right?" he asked and Snotlout just glared at him, "Alright, how'd you find him?" Hiccup asked, curious, and envious as to why they already found each otherâ€|

It was no secret, although they are both dragon and rider, both Hookfang and Snotlout have funny ways of showing their affection. They both are stubborn to show they care for each other, and end up

mostly getting into fights, "What do you mean how did I find him? He found me!" he exclaimed, trying to get out of the spit and splattered it all over Hiccup's floor, "Besides how did you find your dra- oh." He paused and looked around, before grinning, "Well, what do you know, your dragon didn't find you. Does this mean I'm the head of the academy now since you don't have a dragon anymore?" he asked excitedly, and it was now Hiccup's turn to glareâ€|

"We haven't seen each other in four years and you still haven't changed a bit!" Hiccup sighed exasperatedlyâ€|

"Hey I have been asleep just like you these past four years too you know!"

"And now we have to grow up fast because we don't have four years to catch up to."

"Says who?" demanded Snotlout, "Besides, you're practically more mature than your age back then, maybe now you fit the standards today."

"What are you even talking about?"

"I'm just saying that puberty hit you good, and left me." He finished and mounted up on Hookfang, "See you later sucker!" he yelled as he flew into the night. Yep, it was always nice to have your cousin as a visitor. Hiccup turned and saw the mirror, and indeed, there was a whole lot of changes. He was even surprised when his father immediately recognized him. Although his hair wasn't as nicely put as before, his hairstyle looked more manly, more rugged. His freckles seemed to disappear, and he just realized that he was now starting to sport some facial hair. He quickly glanced around for a dagger, he needed to shaveâ€|

To top it off, one of his favourite changes in his features was that his face looked more defined, sharper, and wiser. His body had now grown, even taller than Snotlout, judging by the quick height assessment from a while ago. He quickly removed his tunic and turned around to glance at his growing muscles. Yep, this might actually just work. Now, he was looking more like a prince. There was a knock on his door, and he quickly snatched his tunic back up and wore it before opening the doorâ€|

"Hiccup!" exclaimed Heather as soon as Hiccup opened the doorâ€|

"Heather!" he said in surprise too, "Uh, did you need anything, is there something I can do for you?" he asked sheepishly. He felt like a child again. Truth be told, he could have easily passed up as Heather's sibling or cousin, considering they both had a dark shade of hair, green eyes, the only difference was the actual colours of their hairs. He heard her giggle, and he couldn't help but feel flusteredâ€|

"I just wanted to say goodnight." She said and went tiptoed on him as she placed a peck on his lips. Fortunately for him, it was just a quick peck. He was going to have to get used to kissing her. But it didn't felt like the kiss that woke him upâ€|

She turned and went towards her chambers, Hiccup waited for her to

have fully gone into her room before he closed his door again. He was going to sound stupid, but he actually thought that the kiss should be warmer, tenderer. He felt his hand twitch oddly, and he ran the fingers of his other hand over it, caressing the back of his palm absentmindedly. He dropped his hands to the side and looked out to the skies with a determined look before bringing out Toothless' saddleâ€|

He was going to look for his dragon tomorrow. The knights of rounds and King Alvin and his wedding plans could waitâ€|

Toothless could notâ€|

\* \* \*

><p><strong>And now Hiccup is finally awake! And yeah, sorry for the disappointment, but indeed Heather's kiss did wake him upâ€|<strong>

\*\*But you'll know what I will mean by that statement later on  
xD\*\*

\*\*By the way, check out my story on Fictionpress, Immortal Love, made by me under the same name, and if you feel like it, place some comments, or reviews or even PM me about it.  
:-D\*\*

\*\*\*\*05272014\*\*\*\*

## 9. Chapter 9

\*\*Disclaimer: I do not own How to train your dragon or anything near it at allâ€| just the story\*\*

\* \* \*

><p><strong>~True Love's Kiss Chapter 9~<strong>

\*\*\_A dragon's tale\_\*\*

\* \* \*

><p>As soon as terrible terrors started to sing, Hiccup snapped his eyes open and immediately darted back and forth in his room to get ready. Toothless didn't fly up to his balcony last night, and Hiccup feared something had gone wrong. He placed everything in his satchel and grabbed a small dagger and tucked it in one of his new boots. He cautiously opened his door and glanced from left to right, no one was still coming. He was good to go now. He dashed downstairs and crept out of the castle, and into Raven's Point woods. He was only hoping Toothless was in their secret place.<p>

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Still sore from their last expedition, they grudgingly woke up to get ready to escort the king back to Berk. They all had to roll out of their beds and crawl to get ready, literally. There was just no other comfort except the soft mattress in which they had slept on. They slowly got in their armours, and readied their weapons. "This is definitely not what I signed up for." Tuffnut complained. And Ruffnut agreed with himâ€|

"That's probably because, we're finished with what we signed up for?" Fishlegs suggested and Astrid came up beside them, although still as sore and just as tired as everyone else, she seemed to be the only one who had enough energy to get their dragons. "Thanks Astrid." Fishlegs said as he sauntered towards his dragon. Tuffnut proceeded to go towards his side of their dragon, while Ruffnut stayed with Astridâ€|

"You seem excited." She said, taking note of how prepared her friend seemed to be, "Are you excited?"

"I just want this trip to be over so that I can rest, and I am pretty much sure you guys want the same thing." She said smoothly as she secured her armour and saddle. Stormfly crouched to let her on, and she mounted the nadder easily. "So come on, we have to be there before the king."

"Yeah, yeah miss bossy." Tuffnut replied, "Come on moron, get up." He said to his sister. She groaned in annoyance and mounted her head, before she smacked her brother's arm, "Hey that hurt! That very much hurt!" Astrid just rolled her eyes before she gently nudged her dragon to fly towards the docks. They all reached the docks, a few moments later; King Alvin had arrived on top of his terrifying Whispering deathâ€|

"Let us go now!" he announced and they all flew towards Berk. Now that they knew the way towards Berk, it didn't seem to take long to reach it. Within a few hours, they finally saw the island of Berk, "Ah finally Berk!" his voice boomed and laughed, "Remember this day, as the day we will tie ourselves to the greatest vikingdom in the barbaric archipelago!" although they were all happy they had succeeded, they were too tired to rejoice or even join the king activelyâ€|

They finally landed on the docks, and the rest of the villagers, along with Stoick, and the other royal heirs and heiresses awaited them as they arrived on Berk. "Welcome!" Stoick greeted them and clasped his hand around the arm of the other king, "Thank you for freeing us of the curse." He then gestured to Heather, "She saved us all."

"Well, anything in my power to help the greatest vikingdom I'd do it." He then scanned the crowd, "But where is the prince?" even Astrid had noticed it the moment they landed. She scanned the crowd, no Hiccup. She really thought he should have been there to greet the warriors that risk their life to wake him up. She crossed her arms over her chest; he needed to learn a few manners. Of course it was a perfect excuse to say he would have the mind-set of a fourteen-year-old.

But still. "He, uh, was gone before we woke up." Stoick answered, seemingly not happy with that fact as well.

"What!?" Alvin panicked, "But what about the wedding?!"

"It's alright dad," Heather interrupted, "We have to wait for two years, he did just wake up and all."

"What's there to wait for!?" he growled, "We've waited four long years, not to mention my daughter's knights risked their lives for this wedding!" he gestured to them, "And you're delaying it for two years?!"

"Now look here you-" Stoick was about to rebut him, when he was silenced by Gobber

"Maybe not in front of the knights, and you're entire village." He suggested and Stoick let out a sigh

"I apologize if the setting of date has upset you Alvin," he relented, "But this is my son's life we are talking about, he agreed with it, your daughter agreed with it. If you want to move the wedding up, you'll have to talk it through with them." Alvin still glared, but it was directed towards his daughter

"Fine." He grumbled, "I too apologize for the untimely outburst."

"It's alright." Stoick replied, smiling, a few moments later, both kings started to laugh

"Look at us, fighting like a child over a favourite toy!"

"Aye!"

"Well, glad that's over." Gobber mumbled and turned to the knights, "Come on, let's get your dragons to the stables. We have them custom made, along with a few all-you-can-eat feeding stations, and some dragon massage." Their faces brightened up and eagerly followed Gobber.

Meanwhile, Hiccup had finally reached the cove, after managing to catch a whole basket full of fish. He set the basket down gently and looked around. He let out a dejected sigh, before hearing a familiar croon. His ears perked up and turned, just in time to see his night fury friend, "Toothless!" he exclaimed and the dragon ran up to him excitedly, he was tackled to the ground and was licked, but he'd worry about washing it off his clothes later on, he was just happy that Toothless was finally here with him, "I missed you bud, did you miss me?" he crooned back and Hiccup hugged his best friend tightly

"How come you didn't come find me?" he asked, and Toothless crooned sadly, "What?" Hiccup asked, and Toothless showed him his tail. Hiccup let out a gasp and Toothless crouched down sadly. A bird, which happened to be on a branch at that time, decided it was time to fly away. Toothless crooned sadly once again and tried to make himself small as he felt useless now that he couldn't fly on his own. How was he supposed to protect his rider now if they get separated? Hiccup knelt in front of his dragon and hugged him

"I'm sorry I wasn't there for you." He whispered to his dragon, while he crooned in assurance that it wasn't his fault, "I'll find a way to get you back on air again Toothless, I promise." Hiccup's fists unconsciously clenched as he thought about who would do such a thing to his dragon. Noticing his sudden burst of anger, Toothless assured him. "I don't think I want to know what happened to them." Hiccup said back, but Toothless was insisting, "Fine, if it makes you feel better." Hiccup cringed as he heard the answerâ€¦

Learning to speak dragonese can be a blessing and a curse at the same time. He could finally understand the dragons as they understand them, but sometimes, they were just too honest.

\*\*\_I know who broke your curse\_\*\*\*\*.\*\* Toothless said again and Hiccup stared at him,

"You do?"

\*\*\_Yes\_\*\*\_. \_ He replied, \*\*\_I led her to you\_\*\*\_. \_

"How'd you know it was her?"

\*\*\_Because you've met her before. And I could feel her heart.\_\*\*Hiccup smiled at his best friend and hugged him again,

"You are amazing bud, thank you for saving me, for saving us."

\_\*\*You have to go now. You need to thank her, and her companions\*\*\_\_\_. \_Toothless added, but Hiccup shook his head,

"I'm not leaving you bud, we're going together." Toothless gave him a look,

\_\*\*Unless you haven't noticed, I'm stuck in this cove, but not you\*\*\_\_\_. \_

"Why'd you come here in the first place anyway?"

\_\*\*Because I know you'd find me here\*\*\_\_\_. \_Hiccup smiled at his dragon's incredible faith in him. He felt ashamed he didn't have much faith in Toothless to have thought he had gone away, sick of waiting for him to wake up.

"Oh, that reminds me." He got up and poured the fish basket he had worked hard at. Toothless bounded in joy and immediately gulped the fish into nothing in a few bites. Hiccup waited until Toothless was finished before they parted. "I promise I'll be back with a plan to get you back in the air again bud." Toothless nodded and helped him out of the coveâ€¦

Hiccup walked back slowly towards the castle. The guards greeted him and let him in, telling him they were all in the great hall.

"Thanks." He muttered and went up to his room to change into some of his new clothes to greet his future father-in-law. Once he deemed his looks fit for a banquet, he immediately trudged down stairs to meet them all. There was merriment and music throughout the whole room, but all stopped as soon as they noticed him come in.

Although he was used to having eyes on him, he felt a bit nervous. He



inhaled and exhaled slowly, before walking in the middle to meet up with his father, "Aha! That's my boy!" Stoick announced proudly and Hiccup tried to smile as normal as possible, trying not to think of Toothless out in the cove, all alone. "Where've you been lad?" his father asked as soon as he sat downâ€¦

"I was looking for Toothless." He replied and exchanged a smile at Heatherâ€¦

\_You need to thank her, and her companions.\_

That was what Toothless said to him. He took a glance to her side, and noticed the new faces. One was a big, blonde boy who was now talking fast to his other companions as he retold his point of view with the journey of his friends. There were two more blondes, busy with knocking out each other. They looked incredibly alike, but he knew one was a girl, and the other was a boy. Oddly enough, the girl was winning. And lastly, he noticed another girl, seated across of him, but on the far end side of the bench. She'd glance at him for a moment, before she'd turn away and continue to look downâ€¦

Hiccup kept staring at her, she lookedâ€¦ familiar? There was just something about her that made him feel intrigued, and he didn't know why. It seemed like she came from a dream, but it was impossible. Heather noticed him take a look over at her knights, "Oh right, I forgot." She stood up and gestured for the four of them to stand up, "My four loyal knights, Fishlegs," she gestured to the big guy who waved nervously at him, Hiccup smiled at him kindly, "The twinsâ€¦" Heather trailed off, as she watched them both shove each other aside, "The girl is Ruffnut, the boy is Tuffnutâ€¦" they all winced as they watched them go into a full brawl against each otherâ€¦

"Excuse me one moment." The other girl, Hiccup had been intrigued with, said and bowed elegantly at them before turning around and smacking the twins singlehandedly out of their fight. Hiccup winced as he watched her give the blows. The three of them soon came back, but the other girl remained unscathed. If anything, she seemed to be a bit irritatedâ€¦

"And that's Astrid!" Heather finished gleefully, "She's the one that found you."

"Oh?" Hiccup asked nervouslyâ€¦

\_I know who broke your curse. I led her to you. \_

Now Hiccup was just plainly confused. She found him, but Heather woke him up with her kiss. Astrid, as he had learned, gazed at him momentarily before looking back down. He resisted the urge to grab her to make her look at him with her beautiful eyes. He mentally shook the thought away, "Thank you." He said, and she gazed back up at him, and noticed he was looking at herâ€¦

Astrid felt her cheeks go red a bit before nodding, not trusting herself to speak, she just nodded and went back to look at her plate. Heather felt awkward as she watched Hiccup stare at Astrid. She knew that Astrid was a beautiful girl, but she had said to her once, she was planning to be a knight for life, and would not want to settle down. Heather cleared her throat, "So Hiccup, did you find your dragon?" she asked eagerly and Hiccup gazed back at herâ€¦

"Yes! I did," Hiccup said enthusiastically, but then his face changed to that of sadness, "But he can't fly anymore." He finished, "But I will find a way to put him back to the sky."

"And what exactly is wrong with Toothless?" Stoick asked his son as he overheard about what had happened to his dragonâ€|

"He lost half of his tailfin." He replied and the rest of the people in the table gaspedâ€|

"Poor dragon," Fishlegs said, "Part of our training often pointed out that if one of the tails, or wings of a dragon is damaged, they'd lose the ability to fly, therefore they'd be grounded forever, and a downed dragonâ€|"

"Is a dead dragon, we know Fishlegs," Astrid interrupted as she watched the prince go sadder, "If you do need help Prince Hiccup," Astrid said for the first time, addressing him, "You can always ask us."

"Yes indeed!" Fishlegs added, "Just don't ask for the twins' help too much, they often destroy than repair." He added and both male and female twin gave him a murderous glare. Ruffnut then turned to her brotherâ€|

"Are you thinking what I'm thinking?" she asked and he rolled his eyesâ€|

"How many times do I have to say that I gave up thinking a long time ago? You should try it really, I've never been happier." He told to Fishlegs who just stared blankly at him. "See? He's not thinking anymore."

"Uh, I never said," Fishlegs interruptedâ€|

"Great now he's thinking." Tuffnut interrupted sarcastically. Everyone in the table laughed as they exchanged conversations, relishing the fact that everything was once again alright. They failed to see however, a distant cloaked figure by the palace windows staring at the prince. She grinned up so wide, it reached her ears, showing a Cheshire-like-smile. She then turned away and disappeared into a green glowâ€|

Hiccup felt something and turned to look around, but he saw nothing out of the ordinary. He got up from his table and approached the window, looking outside. Just as he was about to get inside, a nadder immediately came up to him and squawked, "Hey!" he greeted and the nadder tilted its head to him. "I'm Hiccup."

\*\*The princeâ€|?\*\_The nadder spoke through its own language and Hiccup nodded, smiling at it.

"Yep, that's me." The nadder seemed surprised that he had understood her,

\*\*You can speak our language?\*\_

"I can." The nadder squawked in excitement,

\_\*\*Then I can tell you my rider's wishes!\*\*\_, she exclaimed and Hiccup just stared at her in confusion,

"Who is your rider?" he asked when suddenly her gaze avertedâ€|

"Stormfly!" he turned and saw Astrid approaching them, "Are you disturbing the prince girl?" she cooed at her dragon as she patted it affectionatelyâ€|

\_\*\*No I wasn't,\*\*\_she said and stared at Hiccup, \_\*\*I just missed you\*\*\_. She nuzzled into Astrid's braid and Astrid let out a giggle. Hiccup smiled amusingly, but then felt lonely as he remembered Toothless. He was out there, all alone. Astrid noticed Hiccup's face fell, and broke away from her dragon,

"You want to go to him don't you?" she asked and Hiccup stared at herâ€|

"Is it that obvious?" he asked and she smiled and stared at her nadderâ€|

"Tell you what, you take my dragon out for a fly to your dragon, but," she paused as Hiccup's face began to light up like a child, "You come back before midnight alright?" she said and Hiccup immediately nodded and was already mounting Stormfly. Astrid reached up to her dragon and made her look at her in the eyeâ€|

"You promise me you'll protect him okay girl?" she whispered and Stormfly squawkedâ€|

\_\*\*I will.\*\*\_Was all Hiccup heard before they took off into the night. As soon as they were both far from the window, Hiccup leaned forward to Stormfly,

"What did she say?" he asked, curious what the whisper of the knight was,

\_\*\*She told me to protect you.\*\*\_Hiccup didn't question any longer, all he knew was that he was approaching Toothless, however, he wasn't used to such a slow speed,

"Uh, can we get there faster?" he asked the dragon,

\_\*\*Faster?\*\*\_ she asked, \_\*\*Alright, hold on\*\*\_\*\*,\*\* she said and immediately her speed quickened and Hiccup could swear she was almost as fast as Toothless,

"I know nadders are fast, but I didn't think it was this fast." He commented and Stormfly squawkedâ€|

\_\*\*That's because the other nadders aren't me, or have my rider.\*\*\_They reached the cove, and Hiccup jumped off of Stormfly,

"Toothless!" he shouted, and there was a snap in one of the branches, before a flash of green came out of the shadows. "Toothless!" he cheered and ran up to his dragon, only to have Stormfly tug his tunic back,

\_\*\*Don't!\*\*\_, she exclaimed and Toothless roared backâ€|

\_\*\*Let him go! \*\*\_As Toothless was going to run to them with an intent to attack her, Stormfly immediately wrapped her wings around Hiccup,

"Stop!" he exclaimed, and both dragons stared at him, "Thank you." He said and looked to Toothless, "Toothless this is Stormfly." He introduced and he looked to Stormfly, "Stormfly, Toothless, my dragon." He finished and both dragons stared at each otherâ€|

\_\*\*Sorry,\*\*\_Stormfly apologized as she let go of Hiccupâ€|

\_\*\*You should be\*\*\_, Toothless growled and nuzzled Hiccup as he protectively wrapped his tail around his rider, \_\*\*I'm surprised you managed to borrow a dragon from someone.\*\*\_He told Hiccup who just shrugged,

"Well, she seemed to trust me enough to let me ride her dragon. Besides, how did you know she had a rider?" he asked, and Toothless gave him a stare, "Right, heightened senses I get it." He said and began to look at Toothless' tail, "Well, I'm open to ideas." He said and he heard Stormfly gasp in surpriseâ€|

\_\*\*What happened?\*\*\_She asked Toothlessâ€|

\_\*\*It happened four years ago,\*\*\_Toothless startedâ€|

\_\*\*I was flying over Berk, it was a few weeks after Hiccup had fallen asleep, and the thorns hadn't grown that much yet. The first sailors arrived, and immediately started to fire towards us dragons. Instinctively, we started to defend our homes and our defenceless riders. Some of their ships had also been wrecked by me. I didn't mean to harm them, but they were harming us. They turned around, and the dragons left them alone. A few weeks later, the thorns were now high up, we dragons awaited for them, but we've grown weary about visiting shipsâ€|\*\*\_

\_\*\*They approached slowly, and at first we thought they were there to peacefully come into our home. However, as soon as we started to relax, they began to attack.\*\*\_

\_\*\*At first it was nets, we invaded and blew it to bits. Soon enough they started to throw rocks at us. By this time, we were in a full war against these invaders. They shot at us, but I easily incinerated their built in catapults. Soon, bolas came in, and started to dart back and forth through the skies. I came to rescue the others caught, but one of the arrows, big sharp metals pierced my tailfin. I fell down and crashed back to Berk. The timberjack that found me realized the arrow was coated with poison. He gave me an alternative and I took it.\*\*\_

\_\*\*After that attack, we weren't so kind anymore. It's been four years too long since we last had hope that these incoming saviours were not invaders that seek to conquer Berk while it is at its weakest. We only stopped when we felt different winds in the air. We had smelt them as they drew near, and they knew not to trespass into dragon territory. We held our ground.\*\*\_Toothless' eyes flicked over to Stormfly, \_\*\*Thank you.\*\*\_ Was all he added.

Hiccup hadn't heard the story of how Toothless had really lost his tailfin. Now that he had heard everything, he was furious. He wanted to know who it was that had injured his dragon. But above all, he felt responsible. He came towards Toothless and the night fury nuzzled him. He encased the dragon's head with his arm and hugged him closer, "I'm so sorry Toothless," he whispered, "If it wasn't for me, you wouldn't have been grounded." Toothless pulled away and croonedâ€|

\_\*\*I wouldn't have it any other way.\*\*\_Toothless said to his rider. \_\*\*If I were to lose my tail over you, I'd choose you still.\*\*\_He finished. Although it sounded like somehow romantic, Hiccup couldn't care less. He hugged his dragon, trying to will his brain to come up with amazing ideas to make his dragon soar to the skiesâ€|

"Wait," he finally said, "If prosthetic are used to replace missing limbs in humans," Hiccup stared at the dragons, "Will it work with you as well?" both dragons looked at each other, unsure about the answerâ€|

Not one of them has really seen a dragon with a prostheticâ€|  
\_yet.\_

\_\*\*.\*\*. \_

\_\*\*.\*\*. \_

\_\*\*.\*\*. \_

Astrid groaned as she leaned her head back, Ruffnut was popping some mint leaves she nicked off from the kitchen. She was watching Astrid toss and turn on her bed that the royal family had so graciously given them. She wasn't sure what has gotten her friend so riled up, but she decided it was best to watch and make theories. Astrid felt the knowing eyes of her roommate, and knew what was currently going on in her mind. She sat up and stared at Ruffnut, "If you're going to make conclusions, might as well just give up." She said and sighed in frustration, "Gods, why am I so restless tonight!?"

She dropped her head to the pillow, wanting so badly to sleep in the soft cushions and silky sheets of the bed. The weather was nice and cool against her skin, and she was finally able to sleep in, but somehow, her mind was staying wide awake. There was nothing more frustrating from staying awake other than trying to make yourself sleep. Ruffnut popped more mint leaves seeming to enjoy Astrid's desperation of sleep. She soon finished the mint leaves and decided it was time for her to sleep.

Unlike her companion, Ruffnut never had trouble getting to sleep. She let out a yawn and blew out her candle, "Sleep tight Astrid." She said in a teasing voice and Astrid just glared at her. Astrid knew why she wasn't getting to sleep no matter how tired and painful her body was. She was in a new environment, and she was used to sleeping on solid hard ground by nowâ€|

She sprang up from her bed and looked around. She got up and leaned outside their window to see if everyone was asleep. Most of the lights were out, and Astrid crept outside the room and closed the door silently behind her. She didn't bother grabbing her fur coat or

axe. She could just go to the stables and sleep with the dragons. She wondered if Stormfly was already there. She darted down the spiral staircase and snuck out at the back of the kitchen and into the custom stables.

She left her armour, weapon and footwear back at the room. She was only wearing her night gown, therefore the white cloth against the black night was very noticeable.

Stormfly and Hiccup were now gliding through the starry sky. Toothless was left back at the cove, seeing as Stormfly wasn't able to haul the dragon out of it. As Hiccup was sighing contently up in the air, Stormfly scanned down below, and immediately saw something white shift in the ground towards the stables. As they got closer to the ground, she recognized the figure, she squawked, **“Astrid!”**, she exclaimed excitedly and immediately dove down, causing Hiccup to grab onto his dear life with the sudden change in altitude.

Without a second later he got used to it and braced himself as he settled comfortably behind the nadder. He noticed the white figure as well, and tilted his head

Astrid sighed as her feet came in contact with the soft ground. She could feel herself start to get drowsy, and was slowly swaying back and forth as she breathed in the air around her. She didn't know that her dragon was coming closely behind her. She let out a yawn, and felt her eyes begin to drop. Finally, sleep was settling in. Hiccup managed to get off of the nadder soundlessly and approach the female, but what he didn't expect was for her to lean back and start falling. He barely had enough time to react, but was lucky he caught her in time.

**“What happened?”** Her dragon inquired worriedly, **“Is she alright?!”** She sniffed her rider, before sighing in relief, **“Oh thank the gods!”**

Hiccup glanced up at the dragon and down to the girl in his arms. She looked as if she was sleeping was she sleep walking? Or did she fell asleep while walking? He looked down at her clothes and noticed that the fabric was thin. He immediately knelt down on a much comfortable position to lay her down. He quickly took off his cape and draped it around her shoulders, cautious to not wake her up. She stirred at the contact and snuggled closer. The next thing Hiccup noticed was that she was barefoot

She was most probably sleep walking. He sighed and wondered, with growing up and all, if he had the strength to actually carry something without falling down or dropping it. He looked to the dragon, who was staring at him expectantly, "Is she heavy?" he asked

**“Heavy!?”**, the dragon exclaimed and Hiccup winced at her tone, **“She is most certainly not heavy!”**

"Well, that makes me feel so much better." He said and scooped her up carefully, before trying to get up on his feet, "Huh, it's not so hard as it looks." He said and grinned lopsidedly at the dragon who only walked, or rather, flew away from them. Hiccup sighed and walked back in the palace back doors and brought her to his room. He'd inquire about her room once she wakes up, in the meantime, he's going

to have to get her feet at least cleaned up. He didn't want his sheets dirtied after all. He took a rag from his table and soaked it in water, before squeezing it. He crouched down at the end of his bed, where her feet laid dangling.

He took her right foot in his hand and wiped it clean gently, stopping every time she stirred. As soon as he was done, he repeated the process with the left foot. He washed the rag clean afterwards and watched her snuggle into his bed. He went back to his table and lit up a candle before opening his sketchbook, and picked up some charcoalâ€|

Time to get startedâ€|

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><p><em><strong>Happy New Year Everyone!<strong>\_  
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## 10. Chapter 10

\*\*Disclaimer: I do not own How to train your dragon or anything near it at allâ€| just the story \*\*

\* \* \*

><p><strong>~True Love's Kiss Chapter 10~<strong>

\*\*\_Helping Hands\_\*\*

\* \* \*

><p>Okay, so maybe she was a bit delirious, but she didn't remember the ground feeling this soft or silky. She snuggled deeper and turned, only to find a pillow. Still keeping her eyes closed, she hugged it tighter and breathed in its scent. It smelled like royaltyâ€|<p>

That was when she snapped awake. She sat up strait and whipped her head around her surroundings. This was most definitely not her room. She looked up, and fought a blush as soon as she saw the prince. Fortunately though, he was in a deep sleep as he probably fell asleep on his desk, doing something. She quietly stood up, and noticed that his cape was the blanket she was wrapped in. She took it in her hands gently, before starting to fold it neatly, as she fixed the bed along with itâ€|

Just as she was about to leave the room, curiosity got the best of her and she changed courses and went towards the desk, where the prince was sleeping. She took a peek over his shoulder and noticed that he had started to draw up some tail, and there were a few small samples of different cloths beside it. She quirked her head sideways, where does he get all this stuff? She then picked up some metal she also noticed, and realized they were of different weights, so they're probably not all metal.

There were also some writings on the drawings, some measurements and all, along with some suit thing she doesn't recognize, but it sure

looked like a suit meant for flying. She had to hold back a snort as she thought of it impossible. She didn't know the prince loved to tinker with stuff. She looked over a few drawings and hoped to find some inventions he was planning to make. Unfortunately, her curiosity left her common sense to remain quiet as she was shuffling the papers, succeeding in waking up the princeâ€¦

At first he thought it was just the wind, but it wasn't that windy today so he thought it was Toothless who was flying by his window, but he remembered that Toothless couldn't fly anymore, not with that half tail fin of his of course. But then he heard some metals being placed back on to the table, and the shuffling continued. His head was turned towards his bed and realized that the lady knight was nowhere on it sleeping. He slowly turned his head to take a peak if it was her, when he found her immersed in looking over some of his inventions back thenâ€¦

He watched her, amused as he saw her shift her gaze from one drawing to the next. Soon enough she found some mini catapult he had built, and was just about to stop her, when she had already launched it. "Ow!" he yelped as the stone hit his forehead. Astrid squeaked and immediately placed the invention down and winced as she saw the small wound. At least he was still awakeâ€¦

"Sorry," she said, "I didn't really know it was loaded." She explained and touched his forehead, which only made him wince, since it was still hurting, "Sorry." She said again and he sighedâ€¦

"Nah, it's fine." He said, "I probably should learn to be careful with my inventions anyway." He said and put the mini catapult away, "So how are you doing this fine morning m'lady?" he asked teasingly, missing the faint blush on her cheeksâ€¦

"Fineâ€¦ until I hit you." She replied and he smiled at herâ€¦

"Really it's fine," he said, "I get wounded all the time with my inventions, and I'm the creator." He said and she rolled her eyes at him, "What?" he asked and she gave him a punch in the arm, "Ow!" he yelped again, gods, she could really pack a punch, "Why would you do that?"

"That was for not being careful." She said and turned on her heels, resuming the notion of getting out of the room he was in. He just rubbed his arm, not sure what to say next. He decided he wasn't going to push her buttons, but he just had to open his mouthâ€¦

"Well, that's a nice way of thanking the one that let you sleep in his bed, and apologizing for hitting his head." He said to her sarcastically. Astrid stopped in her tracks and sighed. She turned once more and walked up straight to him, stopping only right in front of him as she crossed her arms across her chestâ€¦

"What do you want?" she asked and he shruggedâ€¦

"How about we just start over?" he offered his hand, and she twitched. He was too kind and forgiving for his own good. Plus he wasn't much of a negotiator. She'll need to teach him that probablyâ€¦ but then again, maybe notâ€¦



"What were you planning today?" she asked and he blinked at herâ€|

"What?"

"I don't like repeating myself." She stated and he rolled his eyesâ€|

"Well I'm sorry m'lady, I'll try not to do it again." He retorted, and she was rally beginning to rethink the reason why she even wanted him to wake up. He seemed much more agreeable when he was sleeping. "Anyway, I was going to start working on bringing him back to the air, but I don't really know which one of these would best fit, or be used for flight, or as a substitute for half of Toothless' tailfin." He finished as he sat back down on his chair and started to analyze the materialsâ€|

"Fishlegs can help." She said and Hiccup stared at herâ€|

"Uhâ€| Fishlegs?" he really wasn't much for recalling names, "Which one was he again?" he asked and she stared at him incredulouslyâ€|

"The biggest guy by the table? The with that spouts invaluable facts every now and then due to his use of statistics?" she explained, hoping he'd remember Fishlegs before she'd have to drag the poor guy to help Berk's prince. Hiccup had been recalling for a moment, before his eyes brightenedâ€|

"Oh yeah! That would be a good, no, excellent idea! He could help me with the measurement, the balance of these stuff plus with the-" and Astrid decided to mute him from that point. Not that she wasn't interested, it was just she didn't understand, and would probably have no idea what he was going to say moreâ€|

"Okay, so I'll get going then." She said Hiccup paused ramblingâ€|

"Go? Go where?" he asked as he stood up to follow herâ€|

"Back to the others." She stated and he nodded his head in understandingâ€|

"Yeah, okay, I'll, uh, see you aroundâ€| I suppose." He mumbled and scratched the back of his head. Astrid just opened the door and was about to shut the door, when Hiccup pulled it open once more, "Oh, can I, never mindâ€|" he trailed off. Astrid paused the door from closing and opened itâ€|

"Can you what?" she asked, and he rubbed the back of his neck sheepishlyâ€|

"Uh, you know, take Stormfly out for a spin, but we won't take too long, I promise." He said and she tilted her headâ€|

"Oh alright!" she exclaimed, "She needs her morning flight anyway." She mumbled and walked away as Hiccup whooped in joy inside his room. As soon as Astrid arrived inside their room, Ruffnut was already up and geared on her armor and raised an eyebrow at Astridâ€|

"And where have you been?" she asked as she continued to strap her weapons, "Didn't see you on bed when I woke up, and we both know I wake up before you." Astrid rolled her eyes and continued to prepare herself for their dayâ€|

"Oh you know, here and there, around and about, under and over, nowhere and everywhere." She replied and Ruffnut snortedâ€|

"If you were, you're definitely part troll." She was then hit in the head with a sheath of a dagger, "Hey!" she exclaimed and Astrid just ignored her, "Moody person, I swear she's more bipolar than that mood dragon of Camicazi-" thwack! She was hit by a shoe in the head, "Alright that's it!" she then stomped towards Astrid and pounced on the girl, who had just about enough time to dodge the girl before she was hit on the face but, unmistakably, Ruffnut's fistâ€|

"This is so on!" Astrid exclaimed and it turned into a full out brawl between the two knightsâ€|

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Tuffnut was busy turning and flipping his food, expecting it to be more extravagant than back at home, but to his disappointment, it seemed normal. He turned to Fishlegs, who was eating to his heart's delight, "Uh, not to destroy your appetite or anything, but are we on Berk?" he asked and Fishlegs stopped eatingâ€|

"Yes, we are." Tuffnut turned to his foodâ€|

"Then why are our food looking like the ones back on Outcast island?" he said, "There's nothing great here at all." He continued and poked aroundâ€|

"How can you say such a thing?" Fishlegs exclaimed, "Berk has the resources and the dragons, they've got good trading capabilities even after four years of falling behind and they are the richest in all the barbaric archipelago-"

"Yeah, that seems great and all, but where are all the good food?" he stared at his plate, even lifting it up to check what's under, "I don't see it." Fishlegs sighedâ€|

"That's because they're saving it until the engagement party and the wedding feast, they want everything to be perfect for Prince Hiccup's betrothal." He explainedâ€|

"Well, why didn't you say so earlier?" Tuffnut said, finally feeling satisfied, "Let's go talk to the king then to move up the wedding!"

"Move up the what?" asked Astrid as she walked towards them, rubbing her shoulders and neck and shot a glare at the other blonde who was stretching her backâ€|

"Gods Astrid," groaned Ruffnut, "You got me goodâ€|" she stated and shoved her brother aside, causing him to tumble backwards as she sat

down and ate his neglected mealâ€|

"Hey!" he piped up, "That was my food!"

"Oh, sorry, I thought you didn't want it since you were so busy complaining."

"Give me my delicious food!" he demandedâ€|

"Try and get it," Ruffnut said and swallowed a bite before Tuffnut pounced on her, causing another brawl to get loose. Astrid sighed and sat down beside Fishlegs, before taking a few pieces of bread and chicken and ate her breakfast. A few moments later, Heather finally came down, beaming at themâ€|

"Good morning knights!" she exclaimed, "How are you?" she asked and both Fishlegs and Astrid exchanged glances. They weren't used to seeing Heather this happyâ€|

"Uh, we're good," Fishlegs staredâ€|

"Yeah, good, good as new." Astrid added, Heather nodded and proceeded to get her breakfastâ€|

"Don't you think it's a fine day today?" she said as she sat down, "A perfect day to fly our dragons over Berk, see the view, just relaxâ€|"

"Oh, yes! Thank you for reminding me!" Fishlegs exclaimed, "I have to check up on Meatlug afterwards, how about you Astrid? Are you checking up on Stormfly?"

"Huh?" Astrid asked as she stared at him, "Oh yes!" she then turned to Heather, "Princess, would you like to come with us while we check the dragons?" she shook her headâ€|

"Oh no, please go before me, I'll wait here for the prince." She said and smiled at them. They both nodded and proceeded to go to the stables. They were talking about the most basic things, and once they reached the stables, Astrid had just remembered somethingâ€|

"Uh, Astrid, where's Stormfly?" Fishlegs asked as he looked around and only saw two dragons, Ruff and Tuff's Zippleback, and his own lovable Gronckle. Astrid groaned as soon as she remembered why her dragon was nowhere in sightâ€|

"Sigh, I guess I'll have to catch up later." She mumbled and turned, "So what else should we do?" Fishlegs just shrugged and resumed to taking care of his Gronckleâ€|

After a few moments of staying there, analyzing the stables, the doors swung wide open, and a whistling filled the air, and in came a big burly boy, but not quite tall than both of them, but he held himself high and saw them. His eyes landed on Astrid and his lips immediately formed into a smirk. Astrid inwardly groaned, '\_Not another one,' \_she thought and turned back to pay attention to Meatlug moreâ€|

"Well Hel-o," he greeted as he came near them, successfully ignoring Fishlegs who was fidgeting in his place, "Aren't you a sight for sore

eyes?" he asked, obviously trying to make a move, Astrid rolled her eyes and turned to himâ€|

"Aren't you a sore sight for the eyes?" she rebutted and he kept smiling at her, which made Astrid try to at least resist the urge to punch himâ€|

"I'm Snotlout Jorgenson." He introduced and still she would spare him a glanceâ€|

"And I'm not interested." She statedâ€|

"I'm Fishlegs!" Fishlegs butted in, feeling kind of left out, but when the other boy gave him a glare for interrupting their moment, he let out a short squeak, before getting his dragon, "Well, I best be getting off now soâ€| bye!" and he rode on his dragon as they flew out the stables. Astrid just stared at the large boy flying away. She could not believe he would just leave her there with a stranger! She was not a people-person. In fact, she has very poor interactions with them that usually results into either one or both of them being seriously injuredâ€|

"Well babe, now that the third wheel's gone, how about a bit of time alone and some- UGH!" Astrid shoved him aside towards the hay, "You should come by some time! You look like you work out!" he yelled after as he tried to spit some of the hays out of his mouth, "Hey, this isn't so bad." He mumbled to himself as he lied back down on the hay before Hookfang, his dragon that managed to snuck in blew the hays on fire, "AH!" he yelled and immediately dove to the nearest water supplyâ€|

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Hiccup had been in the cove for hours end now, and had only realized just how hungry he was when his stomach grumbled. Toothless and Stormfly both looked at him before they started to spit back part of their undigested fish for him. "Uh, no thanks, I think I should probably be getting back now." He stated and started to pack up, when he heard a distant fluttering of wingsâ€|

"Oh Prince Hiccup hi!" he heard and saw a large boy riding atop a Gronckle, "Prince Hiccup!" he waved at them and Hiccup waved back, the boy landed and got off from his dragon and approached them, "Whoa! So this is what a night fury looks like up closeâ€|" he muttered and Hiccup smiled at him. It was nice to see that someone was as interested with the dragons as him, probably even more. "Oh and his tailfin." He pointed out, "So, what are you going to do about it?" he asked and Hiccup shrugâ€|

"I don't really know, I mean, all the metals around seemed pretty great, but, I want something lightweight, yet still extremely durable, but I can't find one."

"True, no man can produce that kind of metal," he said and Hiccup stared at himâ€|

"Fishlegsâ€¦ right?" he asked and he brightened upâ€¦

"Wow, you actually remembered me!" he exclaimed, "This is so cool, after one introduction the prince remembered me!" Hiccup chuckled nervously; better not pop his bubble out. "So this is where Stormfly been all along," he added, "Anyway, as I was saying, no metal produced by man may not be a suitable material for the tail, but from a dragon," he then patted his dragon affectionately, "Specifically Gronckle iron would fit the description."

"Gronckle iron?" Hiccup asked, "Amazing, they can produce such metal? What is it?" he asked, eager to know. He didn't know he'd missed this much in four years. If only he had been awake. Another regret as to why he was the unfortunate recipient of the curse.

"Gronckle iron is extremely lightweight. It may not look like it'll do much damage, but it can cut a sword even ten times its weight. That's how durable it is. It's more suitable because aside from being extremely durable, it won't add too much weight for the night fury and damage his tail too much with the extra weight." He finished proudly, "Oh, we've brought some by the way, how much do you need?"

"You've brought some?" asked Hiccup, "How did you know this by the way?" he askedâ€¦

"It's more of an accident really," stated Fishlegs, "I mean I just kept feeding Meatlug more and more rocks and then boom, she vomited some pile of metal and then we tested it out." Hiccup stared at the night fury's tail before shifting back to Fishlegsâ€¦

"Come on," he quickly mounted up Stormfly, "Let's get this tailfin done." Fishlegs nodded and immediately they flew away. "I'll be back bud," Hiccup stated, "And fortunately, I'll be able to get you flying already." Toothless warbled to him and Hiccup held out his hand. Toothless touched his snout to his human's hand and snorted, a sign telling him to go. Hiccup nodded and reluctantly flew away, leaving his dragon behind. The flight back to the castle was a bit silent, solely because Hiccup was too busy thinking about Toothless, while Fishlegs was too awkward to start a conversation with the princeâ€¦

"Soâ€¦" Fishlegs started, "How're you feeling?" he asked and Hiccup stared at him and smiledâ€¦

"Fineâ€¦ I guess?" he asked before sighing, "Everything just seems soâ€¦ different." He says, "I sleep for a moment, more like four years, and the world seems different than what I had come to know." He finishes and Fishlegs listen attentivelyâ€¦

"I can see where you're coming from," he says, "More like what you're feeling. Sometimes I wake up every day, and I always think about what's coming, but then when I look back, I realized that there were just too many things that had changed." He said, "We live every day, not seeing the changes, but the moment we look back, we realize everything had changed." Hiccup smiles at him lopsidedly. Soon enough, they were already back at the palaceâ€¦

"Four years have done you good my prince." Hiccup heard and looked up, he stared at the guard for a moment, before his eyes widened and

he held his head in his handsâ€¦

"Eret?!" he exclaimed, "You've grown!" he pointed out, and the royal guard laughed at himâ€¦

"You've grown too Prince Hiccup." He rebutted but Hiccup shook his headâ€¦

"Not like you! I mean, wow, look at those muscles!" he exclaimed before slumping, "Why didn't I get those?" he mumbled to himselfâ€¦

"Stormfly!" they heard, and the dragon squawked approaching its rider. Astrid rushed to her dragon and hugged her as Stormfly snuggled and nudged her back. Hiccup smiled as he watched the two of them. His smile falters a moment as he remembers Toothless, and wonders what he was feeling right now. Eret cleared his throat as he approached the young princeâ€¦

"The king wants an audience with you, young lord." He says and Hiccup sighsâ€¦

"Of course, the daily meeting and preparation and catching up must not be delayed any longer. The gods only know how long we've fallen behind." He says sarcastically. As usual, Fishlegs doesn't get itâ€¦

"I beg to differ though, even after four years, Berk is still unrivaled whether by its unusual terrain, and beauty, or by their riches and dragons."

"And I rest my case." Hiccup says before walking in the palace, "See you guys later." Eret and him walks side by side, "I still don't like it."

"Don't like what, Prince Hiccup?" asked Eretâ€¦

"This!" he exclaims, and Eret quirks up an eyebrowâ€¦

"Waking up?"

"No!" Hiccup exclaims before sighing, "The marriage." Eret nods in understandingâ€¦

"Well, I've been hearing rumors about Berk during the four years we've been sleeping."

"Oh?" Hiccup asks, no one had mentioned it to him at all. Even his father had been tight lipped about it whenever he asked. "Do tell me, no one's been saying anything about it."

"Well, it's not quite a good story," Eret says unsurely, "But all I know is that there had been many deaths in the quests. I mean, the villagers had seen giant tunnels, skeletons on the grounds near the market, broken stalls, missing things, bloodied sheets." He admits, "I can see why they don't want to say that to you though, but I figured you need to know. You have the right to know." Hiccup nodded at him and smiled. He placed a hand on Eret's shoulder before he stepped inside his father's study.

All those lives lost, that was something he didn't even want to think about, but he couldn't help but feel guilty. Not only did the dragons have a hard time during those four years. The humans who went through the quest to wake him up hadn't survived either. He wonders how many families he had been responsible for killing their beloved family member. How many people had tried in vain to return to their families? How many dreams had he broken before he was finally awoken?

"Ah, son, you're finally here." His father said, his thick accent booming through the large study, "We need to talk."

"Not now dad," he said, "I have to say something first." Stoick quirked up an eyebrow, but nodded nonetheless to his son. Hiccup proceeded to talk, "This is ridiculous!" he started, he had gotten the whole speech planned out in his head, but usually, in the presence of his father, every plan gets thrown out of the window. "Did you know we probably killed countless of people and dragon by giving them that deal for my hand in marriage!?" he exclaimed, "And what about this whole marriage anyway? Who came up with that!?"

"The curse said only true love's kiss would break the spell." He explained, "I'm pretty sure you'll love whoever wakes you up directly." He states calmly, making Hiccup lose his cool all the more.

"Love!?" he shouts, "I barely even know her!"

"You knew her."

"But I don't! I know the basics, everything everyone will know. I don't love her."

"Knowing her doesn't mean you can't fall in love with her." He states, "Which is why we are waiting until you're twenty years of age."

"And what if I fall for someone else?!" he asked and Stoick shakes his head.

"You won't."

"But what if-"

"Enough Hiccup!" his father finally says, and Hiccup shuts up. Stoick sighs, "I know it's a lot to take in, but Heather's a great girl. And about those lives that were lost for your sake, we're honoring them tomorrow. I was going to ask you about the academy, but a little bird tells me you've been out all day with Toothless."

"You mean Gobber?" he asks, knowing the answer. Stoick blinks before clearing his throat.

"Alright, we're done. Oh, and you have to meet with the wedding planner this afternoon, Heather's going to be there." Hiccup holds back a groan and sighs instead. There's no use fighting the inevitable now.

"Of course, father." Calling him father was rare for Hiccup, he usually uses the word 'dad' instead. The use of the word means he's

clearly accepting his father's decision, but he's not happy with it. Hiccup walks out and refrains from shutting the door, not that he could really shut the door. It was too heavy for him, when he spots Astrid, looking sheepishly at him, "You heard?" he asked, not really comfortable knowing that someone could have heard him saying those things, especially about their princessâ€|

"Heard? Heard what?" she asked awkwardly, "I didn't hear anything, was it supposed to be a secret? Because if I did, I won't tell anyone, I swear." She asks, smiling awkwardly as well. And Hiccup just laughs softlyâ€|

"It's fine, if you did hear though, which you insist you don't," he gives Astrid a stare, indicating he's not believing her, "I apologize for the things I had said."

"It's fine," she says, "I understand marrying a complete stranger seems scary, but two years is a lot of time to get to know Princess Heather."

"So you were eavesdropping." Astrid slumps as her covers been blown already. Expect the prince to come up with a brilliant and creative plan of gaining a confession from the culprit, "You're guilty as charged Milady." He teased and Astrid scowlsâ€|

"Oh shut up." She mumbles and Hiccup just laughs.

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><p><strong>AN: Okay, so that's chapter 10 everyone :3 hope you enjoyed it. Don't worry, things will get real interesting soon ;)<strong>

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## 11. Chapter 11

**\*\*Disclaimer: I don't own How to Train Your Dragon or any of its characters at all, just the story\*\***

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><p><strong>~True Love's Kiss~<strong>

\_\*\*The Banquet\*\*\_

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><p>A few more weeks since the curse had been broken; a lot of things had finally been done by the people in Berk. They've already had everything planned out and prepared for the reawakening of the vikingdom, literally. As soon as the invitations were made, terrible terrors were immediately sent out to fly and spread the news of the curse being broken. Of course, the royal banquet was just the start. During the banquet it would be officially made known to every one of the engagement of Prince Hiccup of Berk to Princess Heather of the Outcasts.<p>

Of course, that wasn't the only thing that's been happening.



Prince Hiccup had been busy with the prosthetic tail for Toothless and for its test drive and all, to top it off; he was being pushed and pulled to different appointments from his dates with Heather to running his vikingdom. But every once in a while he'd sneak out late at nights, taking Stormfly out of her stable to check up on Toothless. Of course, the unannounced borrowing of her dragon did tick off Astrid and she decided to go and give the prince a piece of her mindâ€|

"Where have you been?" she asked one late night as she perched herself against the door of the stables, the prince immediately stood erect, rubbing the back of his head nervouslyâ€|

"Uh, nowhere?" he stated unsurely and Astrid stared down at him before he sighed in defeat, "I'm sorry I just really couldn't stay away from Toothless, I mean, night time is his, our-" he corrected, "-favorite time of the day and it's the only time I get to spend with him!" he reasoned before groaning, "I'm sorry I didn't ask your permission to take out your dragon." He said and Astrid nodded, motioning for him to go out of the stables already. The prince could only slump his shoulders as he left Astrid and Stormfly aloneâ€|

"Seriously? Where's the loyalty?" Astrid asked her dragon before it poked around her, looking for its favorite treat, "No chickens for you until you learn your loyalty well missy." She scolded and placed her dragon back to her stable and left to go to sleep. Seriously, she understood the prince wanted to be with his dragon, she was like that sometimes, but he needs to prioritize. Soon he'll become a king, and they won't have much time as they did before. Duties will come, and so will responsibilities.

"Astrid!" she heard someone yelling for her, and saw the female twin running towards the stables, "Astrid this is a disaster!"

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"You called me over, for this!?" yelled Astrid back to Ruffnut and shook her back and forth, "Ugh, Ruffnut, I've yet to teach Stormfly to be loyal you know. She's taken quite the liking over Hiccup!"

"Oh so the honorifics don't matter now between you and \_\*\*Prince \*\*\_Hiccup?" Ruffnut said, emphasizing the word 'Prince' for Astrid. Astrid paused and bit her lower lip before stalking over to the bed and held up the dress in front of herâ€|

"Seriously, wearing a dress can't be that bad right?" asked Astrid unsurely over to Ruffnut who raised an eyebrow at herâ€|

"Have you ever worn a dress? I mean \_\*\*these \*\*\_kind of dresses?" asked Ruffnut and Astrid shook her head. Her dream flashing through her mind as the image of dress returns to her memory. She looks back to the bed, and eyes one of the two dresses. She set down the current dress and touches the other one carefully. It's soft cloth reaching

her fingertips. She couldn't hear Ruffnut saying stuff about how dresses like these were very uncomfortable. She could just be wishing it was the dress from the dream, but it was definitely oddâ€|

Out of all the dreams she's had, it was the only one she could absolutely remember. Why was it so, "Hello!?" Ruffnut shouted into her ear, to which Astrid retaliated by accidentally punching Ruffnut on the face. Astrid winced after realizing what she just didâ€|

"Oops."

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"You have to look presentable!" Gobber exclaimed, waving his prosthetic hand around as he paced back and forth Hiccup's room, "I mean this is the banquet everyone's been preparing for ever since we woke up! The Bog Burglars are coming, the Meatheads are coming, heck, even the Berserkers are coming! Not to mention the Uglithugs will also be going.-" and Gobber continued to rant as Hiccup was clothed in all types of clothing, ranging from the biggest to the smallest size, to the most elegant and the most ridiculous of styles. "No, no!" exclaimed Gobber, "We need something that'll give these Vikings the feeling that this will be the next future king! Not some cloths of silk and something that itches every single time!"

Hiccup huffed a breath as he remained still, sometimes, he wondered if he could make his own clothes. He surely didn't have any problem making inventions. The whole thing had continued, until Gobber was finally satisfied with what they had come up with, "Perfect!" he exclaimed, "Not too much of raw Vikingness, but, it screams 'Hiccup Horrendous Haddock III' alright." He said, "Oh well, okay take it off of him." Hiccup finally let out a sigh of reliefâ€|

"Ah finally!" he groaned, "I was beginning to think you wouldn't be able to find anything at all!" he told Gobber as he rubbed his hands, "So am I needed for anything else cause I've got some things to do, you know." He told his educator who snorted at his statementâ€|

"Things, huh?" Gobber eyes him skeptically, "If I didn't know any better you're just going to waste your time inventing things, stuff you might not even have to use," he pointed out, "When are you going to get serious Hiccup? Two years from now, you'll have a wedding, it's time for you to start spending time with your fiancÃ©, not her knights."

"What? Since when have I spend time with her knights?" Gobber gave him a pointed look and Hiccup's shoulders slump in defeat, "Alright fine! But Gobber, you don't know half of the things I get to learn with these people. They have great knowledge, even the twins." He added, "There's so much I've missed in the past four years about the dragons and inventions and-"

"Alright!" exclaimed Gobber, "I get it, they're interesting people, but so is your fiancÃ©." He added, "Alvin's going to be after our

heads if the wedding and the engagement doesn't go well you know. This union isn't just about you two, but the union of two vikingdoms. Berk, which is the richest of all vikingdoms, and the Outcasts, which are the most vicious vikingdom there is in terms of military." As they continued to walk in silence, Gobber suddenly remembered something. "Your father also wishes to meet with you." Hiccup groanedâ€|

"What about?"

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"Ah there's my little prince!" exclaimed Stoick as Hiccup finally entered the dining hall, "I believe your attire for the evening is set?" he asked Hiccup as he placed his beefy arm around his son's shoulders and guided him towards the front, "I was thinking of adding some more of a 'Hiccup flare' around the room, what do you think?"

"I, I think that's great dad." Hiccup replied as he looked around to the busy staff, "So, what exactly did you call me here for?" Stoick looked down on his son before leading him away from the dining hall, towards one of the other rooms within the castle. "Where are we going?" asked Hiccup, as he still is unsure of his father's motives. As soon as they reached the door of the room they were looking for, Stoick felt his pockets and pulled out a key. Hiccup was surprised a room with a lock even existed. As far as he knew, almost all room have no locks for easy entrance.

"This'll remain as our little secret." Told Stoick and pushed the door open. He allowed Hiccup to step inside first, before he stepped in himself. Hiccup was in awe of what was around him. There were so many piled up gold and jewels at one side, then some portraits of people, along with some stacked up books that were gathering dusts. Stoick allowed him to go and look around, before he went over to the portrait of his wife. When he felt Hiccup was already by his side, he began to speak, "She died when you were born, so you've probably never gotten to see her did you?"

"I always did wonder how mom looked like." Hiccup said as he gazed at his mother's portrait, "Why am I allowed here just now?"

"Because it's tradition Hiccup, I didn't know this room existed until only when I finally had a bride."

"Does mom know?" Stoick nodded, "When?"

"She knew a week after the wedding. And it's up to you to decide when to tell Heather too." Stoick told him and took a step towards his late wife's portrait and press something at its side, and the portrait moved up, before the wall it was covering opened up. Hiccup was still staring in awe at this secret room when torches suddenly lit up, leading to a stairway leading up. "Shall we?" Stoick gestured to his son, who eagerly nodded. "Do you know where this place leads to?" Hiccup shakes his head

"What is this place?" asked Hiccupâ€|

"The heart of Berk." He said, "Your mother loved this place." they reached the top, and in the middle was a stormcutter, Hiccup has never seen before. "Meet Cloudjumper." Stoick introduced, as Hiccup approached the dragon in awe. Cloudjumper sniffed Hiccup for a moment, before huffing a breath towards him, "Your mother's dragon." Hiccup paused before looking back at Stoick and back at Cloudjumperâ€|

"You're my mother's dragon?" he asked and the dragon bowed, confirming the question, "How come I've never seen you before?"

\_\*\*When your mother died, I decided to protect what she had left behind for you.\*\*\_

"For, for me?" asked Hiccup in disbelief, "Why didn't my father tell me anything?" he stared back at his father, who only shruggedâ€|

\_\*\*Valka had given me strict orders to give it to you, and only you. \*\*\_Replied Cloudjumper. \_\*\*Besides, I doubt your father could decipher what message she has left you. \*\*\_Stoick huffed and looked away for a moment, \_\*\*Do you want me to show you? \*\*\_Just as Cloudjumper was preparing to show Hiccup what it was his mother had left him, the bells started to ring, giving pause to everyoneâ€|

"It's already three o' clock Hiccup, we best be going." Told Stoick and gestured for Hiccup to follow him out. Hiccup wanted to stay and follow Cloudjumper, but he knows his presence was most needed. He bowed and apologized to the old Stormcutter before following his father.

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"Can't this dress get any longer?" complained Ruffnut, "Seriously? How do they expect us to fight in this attire? We're not maidens, we're warriors!" Astrid on the other hand, was busy drying up her hair, and untangling her golden strands from one another, "Can you braid my hair by the way?"

"I thought you could care less with being called a maiden?" asked Astrid as she was still busying herself with her hair. As soon as some strands of falling hair appeared on her hands, she immediately lets it fall outside the window, letting the cool air dry it instead, "Not to mention you've been complaining nonstop."

"Doesn't mean I can't use it to my advantage, just you wait, boys will be lining up after me." Ruffnut stated as she got her dress fixed, "Can you please help me with securing this thing on me?" she asked Astrid, showing the crisscrossing ribbons at the back of her dress, "Seriously, who invented these in the first place?"

"Can't you shut up for the time being? You can complain after you've

actually done this thing."

"Pfft. You're lucky your mother has kept you doing this stuff for so long. Must be niceâ€|" Ruffnut mumbled the last part to herself, causing Astrid to tighten the ribbons more than necessaryâ€|

"What did you say?" she hissed and Ruffnut gasped for airâ€|

"No-nothing I swear, now loosen it up!" Astrid finally did and Ruffnut slumped, "Man you're such a sour puss." She told Astrid, "You need help with the dress?" asked Ruffnut and Astrid stared at her dress for a moment before shaking her head, "You sure?"

"Yep, pretty sure I don't need to." Astrid left Ruffnut before staring down at her own dress. Flashes of her dream resurface once again, before she shakes it away. She thinks she's probably hallucinating it was the same dress when it practically isn't, but there was just this nagging feeling that things were just about to become worse. She let out a sigh before picking up the dress, and proceeded to wear itâ€|

"By the way, can we insert some weapons with these clothes? You know, just in case." Asked Ruffnut and showed Astrid some kind of container for daggers that can be strapped by the legs and Astrid stared at it for a moment, before gesturing Ruffnut to throw some at her as wellâ€|

"One can never be too careful after all." She said and strapped some to her legs as well before arming herself with whatever she canâ€|

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Guests were already arriving; foreign boats were docking, unloading some royalties and nobles coming from the other islands. There too were other dragon riders from the other islands dropping by to join in on the celebration of Berk after four years. The Berkians didn't waste any effort at all for they immediately put to use their best preparations, best performances and just about everything they are best at. Everyone was dressed for the occasion, and even Toothless was picked up by some Typhoomerangs within his cove for him to join in on the celebration.

Everyone was first led into the arena and was told to settle down. The King Stoick and King Alvin were already upon the throne, but the prince was nowhere to be found, neither does the princess of the Outcasts. The only ones present were Fishlegs, Tuffnut, Eret and Snotlout. Their faces were painted, along with their dragons. "So what's this event?" asked Tuffnut and Fishlegs let out a sighâ€|

"This event is like a fundraising event. The people watching will bet on who will win, and the money lost will go to the kingdom."

"Why?"

"That's just how it is, I heard everyone else agreed to it."

"I see. So what's this game?"

"Thawfest my lads." Eret said, "Great game, but this bloke here," he gestures to Snotlout, "Always end up as winner, I don't know how he does it at all."

"Thawfest?" asked Tuffnut to Fishlegs, who shrugged in return.

"Ha! It's only the coolest game in the whole barbaric archipelago!" boasted Snotlout, and Eret snorted.

"Not if I can do anything about it." Snotlout shot him a glare, while Eret just smirked smugly at the prince's cousin. The event started with the sheep carrying event, which resulted in Eret and Snotlout in a tie. Snotlout fumed after the guy, and his father, Spitelout had to shoot a glare at his way to make him cringe. The next one was the beam balancing event, where Snotlout won due to him accidentally hitting Tuffnut with his flailing arms, that caused Tuffnut to bump into Fishlegs, who fell down with Eret after bumping into him.

Eret had to shoot a glare this time, while Snotlout smugly grinned at his opponent, "Alright, that hurt." Mumbled Tuffnut as he fixed his helmet on top of his head. Fishlegs just groaned in reply.

The next event was the axe throwing event, which eventually, ended up with Eret winning. Fishlegs miscalculated the angle of his swing, causing it to swerve towards the other two axes, Tuffnut's and Snotlout's, pinning it to a spot just right above the judges, who had managed to duck just in time. "Huh, not a bad aim." Gobber commented to Stoick, who only nodded in agreement.

The next event now included the dragons.

The first one was the best aerial tricks, Tuffnut failed that test as he tried to blow up the entire arena. As soon as the zipline's gas started to spread everywhere, the entire audience started to move out in haste. Thankfully, Gobber splashed some water just in time on the right head before the arena blew up. Fishlegs had done his trick successfully, but only ended up with boring the entire audience and received low scores as he rounded the arena once.

Eret's was spectacular as he made his dragon, Skullcrusher, fire missile-like shots in the air that erupt into fireworks. Snotlout's was also impressive as Hookfang lit up and formed a replication of himself in the air with the fire coating his body by flying as fast as it can. It stayed for a couple of moments, but in the end, Snotlout was left behind by his dragon. Hookfang couldn't even care less what his rider was spouting about. Eret ended up as the winner.

The next one was target practice. Still a bit rusty, was Tuffnut as he ended up tying both Barf and Belch's necks together. Fishlegs did a fairly good job, but ended up shooting one of the friendly boards. Eret had perfect hits with Skullcrusher. Snotlout got blasted away from Hookfang not ten seconds later after his turn started. Again,

Hookfang could care less why his rider was even angry at him. The rest of the Berkians, even Spitelout, had to face palm themselves.

The next one was to pass through rings of fire safely atop your dragon. Again, Tuffnut did a poor job as he ended up touching the flaming rings. "I guess you really do need two riders for a zippleback." Commented Gobber and Stoick nodded as he watched the medics tend to Tuffnut, who was boasting for getting burnmarks on his skin.

"I finally got some serious burns! Take that!" he exclaimed happily, "Yowch that hurt." He added to the medic tending to his burns.

"On second thought, maybe it's the rider who has some problem." Added Gobber as an afterthought.

Fishlegs and Meatlug were too big to fit in the rings, so was Eret and Skullcrusher. By this time, Hookfang had already flew away, leaving Snotlout to his own embarrassment. The competition ended up with Eret as the overall winner. "Did I ever tell you of the story where one of your ancestors lost the Thawfest games?" asked Spitelout to his son who shook his head, "Correct, that's because! A JORGENSON HASN'T LOST ONE YET!" he yelled and Snotlout cowered in fear. Stoick let out a sigh and looked towards the sky. It was already sunset, the banquet should start soon.

"My fellow Vikings!" exclaimed Stoick as he stood up from his throne, "No one in Berk is more thankful than me for all your efforts during the past four years. This celebration, isn't only for my son and his engagement, this celebration, is a way of us Berkians saying thank you." He watched everyone sad looks start to form in their eyes, "We've heard of you losing your beloved ones, and I know, most of all, that no amount of treasures will replace them, but what do we do when they aren't here with us? We celebrate them!" he told them, and one by one, they start to light up with smiles, "This celebration isn't for us, but it is for them."

The Vikings cheered on and was led towards the Great Hall of the palace. One by one, food were being brought out, along with refreshments. Terrible Terrors performed some tricks as entertainment for the people. Astrid and Ruffnut were still posted outside of Princess Heather's door. "How long does it take to wear a dress?" asked Ruffnut out of boredom. Astrid just sighed and decided to answer to the best she can.

"Longer than we did."

"And how many people are needed to prepare for a ball or something?"

"The higher the status, the more people there are needed." They hear a gasp from inside and another thump and another cuss word as well.

"And how dangerous can those dresses be?" Astrid groaned in annoyance. She's had enough of dresses and parties for a lifetime already. "Sorry, it's just, what's taking them so long?" Ruffnut mumbled under her breath before resuming her post. They both stood up straight and alert. Ruffnut was wearing a white dress whose front is

shorter than the back. The front part just stop right above her knees while the back stopped right below it. The upper part of the dress was encased with some black leather around its torso. The lower part flowed smoothly, but the black encasing if the hidden weapons could be clearly seen against the white cloth, not to mention her black hunting boots clearly stuck out.

Astrid wore something purely white, design similar to Ruffnut's, although the cloth was a bit thicker. The only difference was that there was a ribbon tied around the waist, and she opted to bring her axe with her and swung it around her waist, along with hiding a few knives at her own black hunting boots. "They're probably going to tell us to leave the weapons you know." Informed Astrid and Ruffnut just scoffedâ€|

"I'd like to see them try to take it from me." She challenged, holding up a fist towards Astrid who just smirked at her. And just around that time, the door opened, and Heather came out. Both maidens straightened up and bowed slightly to their princessâ€|

"You girls look fantastic!" Heather mused, before taking a double look at them, "Although I think the weapons may be a bit much?" she added as an afterthought, but when both girls showed no sign of wanting to leave their weapons behind she just let out a sighâ€|

"It's better to be safe than sorryâ€| I guess." They both smiled at her and she let out a sigh, "Well then, we better be in time for the banquet." Heather wore something gold; its shoulders were puffed out, while the rest of the sleeves stuck to her arms. The crisscrossing ribbons at her back were tied tightly, showing of just how small of a waist she has. Her hair was put up in a bun, but not so tight as some of the strands framing her face was curled. The entire dress glowed with glitters and some clear embroidery, while her heels, hidden underneath the massive skirt clicked through the halls with every step she took.

"-and now let us welcome, my soon to be daughter-in-law, Princess Heather of the Outcasts!" exclaimed the King Stoick as they neared the great hall. The red curtains that covered the crowd from their wide hallway slowly rose up to reveal Princess Heather as well as her two knights. Heather stepped forward and placed her left hand in Stoick's right one and smiled at the crowd who clapped at her. Her two knights stepped down the stairs and stood erect beside Fishlegs and Tuffnut, who were looking good despite all the unfortunate events that's happened to themâ€|

"You better not have hurt my dragon." Whispered Ruffnut to her twin, who just scoffedâ€|

"Please, they can handle a little tough." He retorted and Ruffnut frown at the statementâ€|

"Isn't that supposed to be rough?"

"Nu-uh, I said it exactly how I want to say it."

"Both of you shut up." Scolded Astrid and the two twins eased their fights.



As the king continued on with his speech, Hiccup, somewhere behind another curtain tried to ease his nerves. He took a small peek at the side of the curtain, and all he saw was the crowd. He gulped and refrained himself from pulling all his hair out, "Calm down lad." He heard from behind him and saw Gobber eyeing him amusedly, "You better get used to big crowds like this, after all you'll be king soon." Hiccup just groaned and fixed his outfit himself to something more comfortable. "What's with all the addition?" asked Gobber, "More of a Hiccup flare?"

"Well, I wasn't quite used to it, so I figured to add some things as well, you know, I do make most of my outfits." He pointed out, "And please refrain from reminding me I have to be king one day because, to be honest, I'm not feeling the urge to be king just yet."

"You probably will be king sooner than you think, you're getting married." He pointed out as well and Hiccup rolled his eyes.

"Gee, I didn't realize that." he said sarcastically before sighing, "Gobber, what- what if I screw up? I've always been such a clumsy person." Gobber gave him a reassuring smile.

"Then I'm sure you'll find an even better way to fix it."

"-now no one's more surprised, or more proud than I am. Let me present to you, my son, and my heir to the throne of Berk!" he could feel his nerves starting to calm down and steeled himself to face the crowd, "Prince Hiccup Horrendous Haddock III!" he stepped out of the curtains and the crowds gasped at the sight of the heir. They haven't seen much of Hiccup, so imagine the surprise when the past four years had seemed to be good to the prince.

Hiccup wore something fitting to his body, its color was black and there were many belts that ran across his body. There were also leather arm braces around his forearms, and his cape was of the color brown, pinned to his body with an emerald gem. His boots were leather and brown as well, and around his waist seemed like a place to hold his sword which, in this case, was still inexistent. (A/N: his outfit is similar to HTTYD 2, but not quite) Soon someone started to clap and the others soon followed. It wasn't long after that, that the party soon followed.

There was eating and dancing and chatting all around them, and Hiccup was still glued to his chair, not even bothering to take Heather out to dance as he poked around with his food that was too many for him to eat. Heather sat in hers awkwardly, stealing glances from time to time from Hiccup, who seemed too immersed in his own plate. Astrid on the other hand was casually dodging dances left and right, giving the excuse of her having to stay free to guard the vicinity, "It's a party Astrid." Thuggory persuaded her as he followed her with her rounds around the hall, "Loosen up a bit. Besides, I didn't get to see you often dressed like this back in Outcast Island."

"So? I didn't get any memo that I should stop doing my duties because there's a party going on." She said, "The more people there are relaxed, the more threat there is." She finished and Thuggory finally relented and stopped following her. She sighed in relief before she stopped right beside Ruffnut who was looking so bored just standing around doing nothing. "So, what's the problem?" Astrid asked with a sigh as she noticed the other girl's clear annoyance.

"I wanna go and dance." She mumbled like a spoiled child and Astrid raised an eyebrow at her, "What? I spotted someone hot and I don't want anyone else to get to him first." She explained and Astrid let out a sighâ€|

"Fine, maybe you can go and loosen up." She said, using Thuggory's words. At her consent Ruffnut brightened up and made a mental victory dance before going off to look for this hot one she spotted. She was too busy watching Ruffnut disappear into the crowd, she didn't notice someone was already beside herâ€|

"You should probably go and dance too." She heard and looked behind her to see the princess smiling at her encouraginglyâ€|

"Princess." She greeted and bowed, "Shouldn't you be dancing as well?" she asked curiously and Heather's smile faltered slightly and looked behind her, where the Prince still sat to try and finish his mealâ€|

"I would if someone would take me to dance." She answered

"So even your fiancÃ© doesn't like you huh?" sneered someone else and Heather looked at the source, only to narrow her eyes at the newcomer. "What did he get bored with you already?" it was Princess Tantrum of the Uglithugs. Somehow, Heather and Tantrum always don't see eye to eye with each other. They've visited Outcast Island a couple of times, and somehow they always get into conflicts with each other.

"Get away from me Tantrum, you don't even deserve to look down on me." She said, "From what I've heard all you did the past four years was throw a tantrum." Princess Tantrum was seething with anger before setting down her mug at the incoming traysâ€|

"And you think you've done better than me?" she retorted, "If I heard correctly, it was your knights that did all the work, while you just strode in like you're better than the rest of us." She hissed before her eyes turned to Astrid, "Aren't I right?" Heather turned to Astrid, and suddenly both eyes were on her. Tantrum continued, "Don't you think it's a bit unfair that it's her that should get married to the prince when it was you who risk their lives to find the prince?"

"I-Iâ€|" Astrid looked to Heather, who seemed expectant of her answerâ€|

"I heard from Camicazi," Tantrum suddenly said and Astrid felt the hairs behind her neck stood up, "You're Astrid Hofferson, the one to have found the prince. I'm surprised you didn't try to wake him up yourself."

"What do you mean?" asked Heather hesitantly, not wanting to hear the next words, but asked instinctively anyway. Tantrum smirked smugly at Heather before looking at Astridâ€|

"She's in love with your Prince." Heather looked at Astrid in disbelief and Astrid was tongue tied at the moment. She didn't know how to answer that, she didn't even know how to react, but somehow, she didn't have to for the next thing they all knew, all the candles

went out with a strong wind, and suddenly lit up with green flames. The flames flickered and flowed down to the center of the room, and everyone stepped away and went nearer to the walls of the hallâ€|

The ball of green flame slowly went out, and a figure appeared out of it. There was now a woman, clad in all black, on her head were two large horns, and she didn't appear to have been wearing any helmet. She had with her a staff about as tall as her. Perched right on top of the staff was a black terrible terror whose eyes were bloody red. Stoick suddenly took out his war hammer and stepped in front of Hiccup protectively. Hiccup moved to the side, but was blocked by Gobber's prosthetic, indicating he stay behind them. She smiled as she made eye contact with the prince, showing her perfect white teethâ€|

"Well, well," she startedâ€|

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><p><strong>AN: and the villain makes their entrance! Who do you think it is? I'm betting you all have a pretty good guess, but guess away anyway! Please leave reviews! ;)<strong>

\*\*02182015\*\*

## 12. Chapter 12

\*\*Disclaimer: I don't own How to Train Your Dragon or any of its characters at all, just the story\*\*

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><p><strong>~True Love's Kiss~<strong>

\_\*\*The Intruder\*\*\_

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><p>"Well, well," she spoke as she looked around, "I see you've invited everyone," she mused politely before gasping, "It didn't seem like everyone, now that I remember, I didn't get my invite. I do hope it just got lost." She teased and stared at Stoick, "It's been eighteen years, has it not, dearest Stoick?" she asked smiling still. Hiccup looked at his father, who seemed to be too stiff for his own goodâ€|<p>

"Maleficent." He spat venomously as he and Gobber stood protectively in front of Hiccup, who despite being blocked by two very big men, still tried to get a good view of who it was that had just came, and how did she know his fatherâ€|

"Oh my," she piped up, "I've been gone for so many years and that's all I get?" she asked, pouting at the process, "And here I thought we were friends."

"We aren't." Stoick replied, glaring at the sorceress. "What are you doing here?"

"I thought you forgot my invitation." She looked around in distaste all around her, "It seemed like you've invited everyone, but I had yet to get mine."

"The first time you weren't invited was by accident, this time you weren't." Gobber piped up and Hiccup stared at Gobber then back to his father, what did they mean the first time? Did his father know what this was all about? How so? And who was this Maleficent?

"I have come for the boy," she announced, and stared right at Hiccup's eyes, "You have her eyes." She pointed out, and Hiccup gulped, "You must have many questions, all I can answer for you." She said and gave out her outstretched hand, "All you have to do, is come with me." Just as Hiccup was about to step forward his father blocked his wayâ€|

"Hiccup isn't going anywhere with you." He said and threw his war hammer towards herâ€|

"No!" Hiccup yelled but then green flames erupted, and all the guests let out gasps and shrieks of terror. Stoick grabbed Hiccup and covered him with his own body. Soon enough, the flames flickered back to nothing and all the lights went normal, except nothing would seem normal againâ€|

"\_\*\*I will still come for Valka's boy, mark my word Stoick."  
\*\*\_Echoed Maleficent's voice throughout the great hall. All eyes were on Stoick as he stared at the war hammer that was left on the floor, except there was also a ring not too far away from it. He stepped forward and picked up the hammer and the ring, before his beefy hand enclosed around it tightlyâ€|

"I want every guard on the lookout for Maleficent! Leave no stone unturned until you find her and where she stays! This takes top priority before all else!" he barked orders and soon everyone was mobilized and quickly scattered around the place as they headed outside to prepare for hunting parties. "Eret, Snotlout!" he called out as he spotted two of Berk's mightiest warriors, "I want you by Hiccup's side every single second, do not let him out of your sight!"

"Yes your majesty!" they chorused and went to Hiccup who was desperately trying to get to his fatherâ€|

"Wait dad!" called out Hiccup as he tried to keep up with his dad without getting crushed by the people around him, "Who was that? What was that!? How do you know her? She was the one that cursed me right? Did I do something? Did mom do something!? Answer me!" he yelled and Stoick just stared at him for a momentâ€|

"Stay inside the castle." Was all Stoick said before he disappeared into the crowdâ€|

"No dad!" Hiccup tried to go after him but his arm was already grabbedâ€|

"You heard the king, you're staying here in the castle until further notice." Eret stated as he pulled Hiccup away and towards his room, followed shortly by Snotlout. Heather looked at Hiccup's retreating back, and when she was about to follow, she was almost run over by

the Vikings who were rushing to do the King's orders.

"Princess!" Astrid called out as she held the princess to support her, but Heather yanked her arm awayâ€|

"Don't touch me." Was what Heather whispered before disappearing though the hallâ€|

"Struck a nerve, didn't I?" Princess Tantrum said before Astrid shot her a glare and ran after her princess.

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"You got to let me out!" exclaimed Hiccup as Snotlout pushed him away from the door, while Eret stood guard from the outside. Hiccup groaned in frustration before sitting down on his bed and buried his face in his hands. "I need to know, I need some answers." He said with a muffled voice. Snotlout just shook his headâ€|

"Nuh-uh, the King said you're staying in the castle," he pointed out, "And if there is one thing I know from you, getting your answers usually lead you outside."

"I hate to admit it, but Snotlout's right, young Lord." Eret piped up from the door as he entered itâ€|

"I thought you were guarding outside?" asked Snotloutâ€|

"I was, but things seemed to have settled down." He answered, "Besides young Lord, there must be at least some place in the castle that could give you some answers, like the library perhaps, or your father's roomâ€|" he suggestedâ€|

"You're telling the prince to break into his father, the king's chambers?" asked Snotlout sneering and teasing Eret some more before Eret retort back with something equally insulting back. At the mention of some place with answers, Hiccup could only think of one, but no one else was allowed in it. One way or another, he'll have to find a way to get them off of his back, not to mention his father locked the door when they left it for the banquet.

He looked back at the two who were so actively arguing with each other, as he formulated an escape route in his head.

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Astrid and the others had already changed into their battle clothes and armors before they took off on their dragons. They were currently roaming the skies, patrolling here and there, while others stayed grounded to search the land. Maleficent had made it clear she was

after Hiccup, but the question remains, why? Why did she want Hiccup? Astrid looked down beneath her and spotted a cove somewhere in the forest. She nudged Stormfly to land somewhere there. The nadder gave off a squawk before landing on the cove.

She got off her dragon and looked around, but saw nothing, until she heard something let out a puff of air and grunt. She squinted in the dark before she realized that on top of a boulder there were already two large green eyes staring at her, its eyes turned to slits. She gulped before cautiously stepping back towards her dragon, who in turn seemed to step in front of her protectively. After a few moments, the slitted eyes dilated, and Astrid noticed she was staring at a dragonâ€|

"Night fury." She whispered, suddenly remembering about the prince's dragon, "You're his dragon, the prince's." as she stepped forward oh so abruptly, the night fury paused and let out a hiss, baring its razor sharp teeth to her. Stormfly reacted almost immediately as her tail spiked up in defense, "Easy now," Astrid said, calming them both down, "I'm not here to hurt you." She said and the dragon eased up a bit, but still not letting her touch him. Stormfly eased for a moment after realizing her rider won't be in much danger anymoreâ€|

\_\*\*You better not hurt her. \*\*\_Growled Stormfly to Toothless, who just snorted at herâ€|

\_\*\*She better not hurt me. \*\*\_He retorted back, and sniffed the air, \_\*\*There's some sort of ash in her scent, did something happen? \*\*\_He asked, fearing for his riderâ€|

\_\*\*An intruder came at the palace, \*\*\_answered Stormfly, \_\*\*Everyone is now out looking for the intruder who seems to be after your rider. \*\*\_She informed and Toothless tensed up and bared his teeth as he stared up at the coveâ€|

\_\*\*I need to get to my rider, \*\*\_he said as he frantically looked around, \_\*\*He needs me now more than ever.\*\*\_

Astrid watched in awe as she witnessed two different species interact with each other. Their wings were flapping, their mouths making a range of noises from tongue clicks to hisses, even their expressions were amazing. She saw the night fury eye the opening of the cove, before she realized what it was they were talking about. He was trying to get out. She may not be able to do much tonight, but this, she will do. She looked around before seeing a few logs lying around as well as some vines, "I think I have something that can help." She stated and both dragons looked at her.

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The council had started to be in session, and currently, everyone is in an uproar. Some Viking chief found the thought of helping out repulsive to them, actually not just some, but most. "This is your problem!" complained one of them, "You cannot just expect us to help you out whenever you are in need!"

"Indeed, we expected a banquet to happen, lots of dancing and food, not this!"

"Need we remind you that our alliance with each other is on shaky territory?"

They all were talking everywhere around the room, complaining and shouting at each other. What's even worse, Alvin was right beside Stoick complaining about the wedding, "Move up the wedding!" he demanded and Stoick resisted the urge to fling him to the other side, "Your son is in danger, at the very least you must secure an heir lest something happens to him!"

"I told everyone in the banquet that finding Maleficent takes priority, and I intend to do that first. I don't care how long it takes, but as long as Maleficent is around no one is safe!"

"Why should we believe you?!" asked Bertha, "From the looks of things from the banquet this fight is between you and Maleficent." The rest agreed, "We want the whole truth Stoick, why should we even help you?" she asked, but she wasn't finished yet, "Better yet, why do you know Maleficent?"

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"Ugh, this is so boring." Muttered Ruffnut to Tuffnut who was so busy lying on his side of the dragon, sleeping. "You're just so plain useless." She said to her brother who was sound asleep. "Can't we do something with a bang or something?" she whispered into the night before squinting at something far away. It was small, flying and heading their way. "Hey I see something!" she hissed at her brother, who only mumbled something back at her as he resumed to sleep, "I think it's a terrible terror." She added, "Are you even listening to me?" she asked and turned to look behind her, only to find her brother still asleep.

She gritted her teeth and was just about to knock him awake, when the terror landed in front of her. She stared at it for a moment before recognizing the terror, "Hey, it's Astrid's!" she exclaimed. At the mention of the name, Tuffnut immediately bolted up awake and placed himself back on his dragon's neck

"Ruffnut fell asleep!" he excused before looking around, "I thought you said it's Astrid's!" he mumbled cluelessly, still looking around for the said blonde

"No, I said it's Astrid's," she corrected showing the terrible terror, "I added an 's' so it becomes possessive."

"What? Someone's possessed?" he asked unsurely, "How would you know that?" Ruffnut just rolled her eyes

"Explaining to you is futile."

"Oh, big word."

"Whatever," she mumbled, "Your idiocy is very unentertaining." She added under her breath as she took the mail attached to the leg of the terror. She opened the message and scanned it for a moment, holding the note right before her, "What does she mean she needs tree barks?" she asked to her brotherâ€|

"What? The tree barks?" he asked, "As in they go 'woof, woof'? I'm beginning to think Astrid is a bit stupid, don't you think?" Ruffnut stared at him blankly for a moment before turning back to the messageâ€|

"I totally forgot you had no brain or whatsoever." She replied, "Ugh, I hate thinking." She mumbled before she closed the message and turned to her twin, "Let's go cut some trees." She nudged her head to go down, and Tuffnut followed in suit.

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Now Hiccup may not seem very strong, but he is capable of taking down two massive Vikings in contrast to his small build. He waited for the food to come and went to greet the servant who delivered it. Snotlout and Eret were still too busy proving their own strengths against each other with the occasional glance from him time to time, and for some double purpose to Hiccup's presence, they made him referee of their mini competition.

As they were busy with their arm wrestling competition, Hiccup set the drinks and food down chanced a glance at his two body guards just in time to see Eret beat Snotlout for the nth time in the row already. He turned back to their food before getting something in his drawer. It was a very small vial, filled with some white powder. He made it back when he discovered a series of herbs that he found out could calm him with just a scent. He made the honest mistake of mistaking it for a mint leaf, when the next thing he knew it was already night time and he was back in bed.

Apparently during the time, Toothless realized his rider had fallen asleep and brought him back to the palace anyway. Soon enough he realized that aside from the sleeping effects, it actually soothes wounds, and seeps away infections and poisons. How he found out though he won't bother reminiscing anymore.

Anyway, he sprinkled a small amount in the drink and food before giving it to Eret and Snotlout. "Thank you young Lord." Eret replied, while Snotlout immediately grabbed his mugâ€|

"About time." Snotlout stated and downed it in one go. Hiccup went to his desk and ran over the tail designs he had been working on along with Fishlegs and his knowledge on Gronckle Iron, when he heard some clatter and snores. Hiccup turned around only to see them both sleeping peacefully on the floorâ€|

"That was fast." He mumbled before tucking in the small vial inside his breast pocket. "I'm really sorry." He whispered to them before he



ran out of his room and through the hallways as he hid from the knights roaming around, along with the palace servants. He soon neared the council room and he slowed his pace down when he heard itâ€|

"Why do you know Maleficent?" He paused in his steps and leaned back in the wall, opting to stay a little while longer before he go and proceed to where he was originally going to.

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It was a question Stoick was hoping to avoid all of his life. He didn't even want to look back on what happened before. What was important to him now was what would happen if they didn't get rid of Maleficent in time. "That information is not necessary." He dismissedâ€|

"Actually," Alvin interrupted, "That information is necessary." He said, "We all risked our resources, people, just to wake your son up from a curse, now I'd like to believe that he was just unfortunate, but this is just way too much of a coincidence for Maleficent to just be picking random victims." Stoick just stared back at Alvin, "She knew you before all this happened, and you do know what they say about curses right?"

"Curses need passion for it to be made." Bertha stated, "And she placed a curse on your entire kingdom, even though it was broken, it's clear it wasn't enough."

"If I remember correctly," Oswald the Agreeable spoke out, "She seemed to have appeared on your wedding day as well, quite enraged in fact, spouting something about not being invited and all."

"What difference does it make whether or not if you know the answer?" asked Stoick, "Knowing won't stop Maleficent."

"Maybe, but, if we're going to get involved, we better know what it is we're putting ourselves into." Stoick let out a sigh, before he decided it's time to have a little recall about the past.

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Astrid didn't really know how long it was going to take to give her message to Ruffnut and Tuffnut, but she trusts them enough to do as she asked them of. Still, even though she was here determined who it was that would dare lay a finger on the prince, that nagging feeling of Heather's stare, more like a glare really, scared her. What would happen now? Would Heather remove her from her knights? Or send her home? Probably even try and execute her? She shook her head at the thought, Heather was reasonable. There would be no way she'd let Tantrum's statements get the best of her.

But still, the glare from earlier sent shivers to her spine. She was flying high up in the cove, looking down from time to time in the dark cove where there was a small campfire made nearby the flightless dragon. It took some time, but Stormfly squawked at the sound of flying incoming towards them. It was the twins, along with a Timberjack, surprisingly. "Care to tell me how you tamed this mighty beast?" asked Astrid and the twins stared at each other before turning back to herâ€|

"Nope." They both chorused before Ruffnut leaned forwardâ€|

"So what's this all about?" she asked and Astrid gestured down towards the cove, "You made some camp?"

"No!" she shot, glaring at her friend, "The prince's dragon is down there."

"You mean the night fury!?" exclaimed Tuffnut, "Let's go!" Ruffnut went along with him and Astrid had just about managed to intercept them before they get blown up by startling the hostile dragonâ€|

"Are you guys idiots!?" she hissed, "That's a night fury! What did they ever tell us to do when we encounter one?"

"Uh, hide and pray it does not find you?" Ruffnut answered. "But come on Astrid, we never got to see a night fury in person! We've just seen it in pictures that came from Berk like years ago before the curse." Astrid was skeptical in letting them anywhere near the night fury. They'd either try to scare it, or threaten it with their hunger for danger. She finally let out a sigh after seeing the expectant gazes of the twinsâ€|

"Fine, but you'll follow after me." She said and slowly went down with the twins following in after her.

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\_\*\*Okay, so this chapter is shorter than what I would have wanted it to be, but that's all I've got for this chapter. I do promise though, to try and make the next one longer. Anyway, anyone up with theories on why Maleficent is after Hiccup? And what kind of past she has with Valka and Stoick?\*\_

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End  
file.